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WAR.

AFTER all that has been said and written on the subject, there is probably little real apprehension, either in this country or abroad, of the outbreak of a European war at present. At the same time, the condition of affairs is very favourable to the production of such a catastrophe; and, for our own part, we should be more satisfied if the general opinion, which so strongly inclines to the view that the Polish difficulty will pass away, were more firmly grounded in some distinct and reasonable belief that it ought to pass away from us, whether the Russian Emperor does or does not remain deaf to the solicitations of a wise and disinterested diplomacy. But this is not the fact. Instead of any distinct or reasonable belief, there prevails in England a state of public feeling vague and full of danger—the danger which besets any man who, at a critical period, finds himself weakened by a conflict of instinct, prejudice, and reason almost equally strong, and any one of which may be made to preponderate easily by the blundering of a friend or the arts of an enemy. If those people who constitute nineteen-twentieths of what is called ordinary society were polled on the question—should diplomatic intervention fail, ought we not to aid the Polish insurrection by force of arms?—far the greater number would be found to have no opinion on the subject at all. To feel that we ought to do so on moral grounds, and that we ought not to do so on prudential grounds, is the condition in which most British minds remain after all the discussion they have been blessed with, and that is not having an opinion. In that case you are only lifted by opposite sentiments up to a pinnacle of stupidity, of mental stupor, where you stick till you are let down again, or somebody or something pushes you over to one side or the other.

That, we say, is dangerous. It is just the situation which justifies the old joke and makes it possible that the fate of empires pretty much depends from day to day upon the state of some gentleman's digestion. For observe, the reigning family of Russia is known to have madness in its blood. Earl Russell is equally well known to be liable to wonderful lapses of judgment whenever he approaches an inkstand.

Now, Alexander has only to become half crazy over one of Earl Russell's despatches—despatches which are often enough to drive any Potentate out of his mind—and the thing is done. The bumptiousness of a Minister and the irritation of a Monarch (mere personal weaknesses) produce

a haughty rebuke. The rebuke appears, under the circumstances, an insult to the honour of England; that brings forward the absolute necessity of maintaining at any cost our influence in the Courts of Europe; and such considerations as these, which have nothing to do with the Poles or their

quarrel, push us from stupidity-pinnacle into war. It takes little to move us from that cloudy height, in any direction; and a noble Earl's biliousness, a Sovereign's pride or his insanity, determines the way. Then we say we "drifted" into it, and are satisfied the explanation is sufficient.

This, or something like this, is the course which events will probably take, if they are allowed to go drifting along any further. Already our dignity, our consistency, our "place in the counsels of Europe," and so forth, are found to be very much in the way of a return to the position we occupied before we entered upon the treacherous path of diplomatic action. In fact, we still go on. More notes are in preparation—notes which are not at all unlikely to bring out, *this* time, the unequivocal answer, "Mind your own business: this is ours." Prince Gortschakoff has given that reply already, indeed; only it is so dexterously tricked off with courtesies that the eye cannot read it, though the mind does. Threats will probably make the Russian diplomatist much clearer. His next answer may be of such a character that we shall be told that the honour and influence of England demand—&c., &c., &c. But we have no right to resent a provoked insult; and if there is no reason in our going to war for the Poles now, we shall not be able to make one out of a rude rebuke to a series of diletante remonstrances.

And, therefore, it is so very important that public opinion—which is to settle the matter at last—should rest upon firmer convictions as to our duties in this case, and, above all things, on a clearer apprehension of what is meant by going to war for Poland. That once understood, we have no fear of having to review the question by-and-by over the bodies of a hundred thousand men slaughtered to no purpose. The popular idea is, no doubt, that to liberate that unhappy country we have only to send an army or two into it, turn out the Russians, recall our surviving soldiery, and pay the bill for powder. That



THE NEW TOWNHALL, HALIFAX, OPENED BY HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES ON TUESDAY LAST.
(E. M. BARRY, A.R.A., ARCHITECT.)

would be easy enough, to be sure. A people freed and elevated into a great nation at the expense of half a dozen victories must be regarded as a good bargain—if the affair were only capable of such management. But it is not. The war could neither begin nor end in that simple, satisfactory way; while as for its limits to right and left, we know no more of them than of the probable ravages of a prairie fire.

"The war could not begin in that way." This means that an invading army could not well march straight into Poland and begin operations there. Looking to the actual situation, we cannot doubt that either by France alone, or by the allies conjointly, the struggle would be commenced in Prussia. At any rate, that country would almost immediately be invaded. And now comes the question, If we ought to go to war for the sake of the Poles, ought we not to leave it alone for the sake of the Prussians?

To understand the bearings of this question, we should remember—1, That the Prussians themselves are in the hands of a despotic King who has shown a fanatical determination that they shall accept on their knees whatever liberties he may think good for them; 2, That the people will probably beat the King if they are suffered to remain at peace, while the King will almost certainly keep down the people if war breaks out; for him, a campaign against freedom in Poland is a victory over freedom at home, which is a nice prospect for the Prussians; 3, According to some of the best judgments of the time, the eagerness of the Emperor Napoleon to strike for Polish liberty only represents his desire to appropriate Prussian territory. And so, because Prussia has the misfortune to be governed by a foolish, obstinate, tyrannical person just now, she is exposed to the risk of shedding her blood for a system she hates, of losing her domestic liberties in the process, and of being dismembered at last to suit the views of a despot, wiser, indeed, than the blessing bestowed on her in the person of King William I., but stronger and more unscrupulous. Are not these pregnant considerations?

Pondering these things, let us also weigh the question whether, so far as the Poles themselves are concerned, it is likely we could make so neat a job of their reconstitution by force of arms as the sanguine and the simple-minded assume we should. Putting aside the probability that a grand new European difficulty would be created by the French in the Rhine provinces of Prussia, is it likely that by driving the Russians out of Poland we should get rid of a grand old European difficulty? because there is no good in expending blood, and tears, and money for nothing, or even to establish a cause which falls dead again as soon as the money, and the tears, and the blood have all run out. What is the prospect that Poland opens to us in this way? There are thousands of peasants fighting with desperate bravery for a most righteous principle. And if they succeed, which they cannot do without help from abroad, what then? The fighting done, where's the Government? Are we to furnish it, and troops and money to support it, or are they? We, certainly not. They themselves must do it, then. Now, for our own part, we should be sorry to say positively this they cannot do; but, on the other hand, no glimpse of a chance of a stable Polish Government has reached us yet. The National Committee seems to work very well, no doubt; but we know how such bodies are generally constituted, and how they fall to pieces in anarchy the moment the "provisional" work is done. If we turn our eyes to the Confederate States of America, we behold a very different spectacle. There the "rebels" started with every element of a strong and lasting Government; what is more, they were *exactly agreed upon what they wanted*; which we do not perceive to be the case in Poland. The contest between the peoples in these two particulars must strike any one who contemplates it with apprehension for Poland, whether she succeeds in beating the Russians in the field or not. Her independence would not be gained then. Independence is from the first impossible in such a case, without governors like Davis, generals like Lee, and concord and obedience in all the people. Now, what prospect is there that, if the Allies (as France, England, and Austria are called, we see) were to march their victorious armies out of a liberated Poland, they would leave such men and such a spirit behind them? We venture to answer, None. And there we stop—hoping that we have contributed something to the settlement of public opinion, which cannot be settled too soon.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AT HALIFAX.

A DISAPPOINTMENT.

The people of Halifax and of Yorkshire generally had for some time looked forward with much interest to the promised visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales on the 4th of August, to open the new civic hall in that town, and had made great preparations to give their Royal Highnesses a suitable reception. Great, therefore, was the disappointment when it was announced that, in consequence of a slight indisposition, the Princess would be unable to bear the fatigue of the journey, and that the Prince would consequently visit the town alone. Notification of the circumstance was sent to the officials of the town on Sunday, and was immediately made public; but, notwithstanding this, the people were loth to believe that they were not to have an opportunity of seeing the young Princess; and even up to the time of the Prince's arrival on Monday hopes were entertained that her Royal Highness would have been able to accompany her husband into the north. In this hope, however, they were disappointed, for although the indisposition under which her Royal Highness suffered was not of a serious character, it was sufficient to preclude her undertaking so long a journey, to be followed by the fatigues incident to the public ceremony in which she would have had to bear a part.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE PRINCE.

The arrival of his Royal Highness at Halifax on Monday afternoon was marked by no particular event, unless, indeed, we count as such the want of proper arrangements by the railway authorities at the station itself, which resulted in some little confusion and amusing disorder. The excursion-trains were coming in faster than their passengers could be got out, or faster than the trains could draw up

at the limited extent of platform, and, deceived by highly decorated engines, the volunteers (the 4th West York) were betrayed into presenting arms to a "cheap trip" train full of highly-anxious and excited excursionists, who took the compliment *au sérieux*, and waved their hats and handkerchiefs enthusiastically. Similarly deceived, the battery of Volunteer Artillery, on the lofty steep ridge known as Beacon Hill, where in old times the beacon fires were kindled and their alarm sent inland, began their Royal salute of 21 guns. It had an exceedingly pretty effect from this point, its only drawback being that the salute was entirely finished a long time before the Royal train arrived, and people outside who knew nothing about the mistake were puzzling themselves to account for the attractions which kept his Royal Highness so long within the dreary precincts of a station where not even a flag was hung in honour of his visit. At last, however, the Royal train did make its appearance, but, instead of coming fully alongside the platform, stopped so far short of where the benches of seats had been erected for the accommodation of ladies that the Prince had alighted, passed out, and entered the carriage before they could convince their minds that he had actually arrived at all. On alighting, the Prince was received by the Mayor of Halifax, Mr. John Crossley, attended by the various members of the municipality in their robes of office. Outside the station a force of the Heckmondwike Artillery was drawn up, with two squadrons of the 2nd West York Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Colonel Edwards, M.P. Escorted by the latter corps, the cortege passed at once into the crowded streets, and, turning away from the town, drove to Manor Heath, the seat of Mr. Crossley. There was a good deal of enthusiasm shown, but not a tithe of what would certainly have been manifested had the Prince been accompanied by his young wife. After a short stay at the Mayor's the Prince visited the carpet manufactories of Messrs. Crossley and Sons, where 4500 hands were busily engaged; the worsted mills of Messrs. Akroyd, where even a larger number was employed, and afterwards the factory of Mr. Whiteley, where the wonderful series of most ingenious machines by which the cards for wool-combing are produced were carefully inspected. On their return to Manor Heath, the Prince drove round and inspected the very fine Orphanage which Mr. Crossley is building, and this concluded the public events of the day.

THE DECORATIONS OF THE TOWN.

It was far, however, from bringing to a close the gaieties of Halifax, where the country people thronged the streets till midnight admiring the decorations, which were, truth to say, not only poor in character but exceedingly intermittent in continuity, breaking out into a thicket of tinsel poles in one part of the route, to subside into a mere semi-occasional flag in another. Only one arch was erected, and this stood precisely on the very spot which it should never have been allowed to occupy—namely, in front of the new Townhall, which it almost hid. In the evening the Townhall was illuminated in a way that set off its really fine proportions to great advantage. Still later in the evening the members of the Yorkshire Glee Union went down to Manor Heath to serenade the Prince, and, as this was the first of the fêtes offered to his Royal Highness by the town, the rain at once took part in it, and set in with a miserable, dull pertinacity of drizzle that showed it meant to do its work slowly, but to do it well. From that time forth rain and mud were masters of the situation at Halifax, and exercised their sway with remorseless severity.

THE PEOPLE'S PARK AND THE PICEHALL.

The Prince left the Mayor's house, soon after eleven, in a procession formed by private carriages filled by municipal officers, who, under the best of circumstances, could never have constituted a pageant, but who, seen in the drizzling rain, presented a sorry picture indeed. The Prince alone would not be damped out, but sat upright in his carriage, genial and courteous to the slightest salutation. The long avenues of seats were almost bare of visitors, some entirely so; and between such empty benches the procession wound through the outskirts of the town to the People's Park. No one appeared to feel much interest in seeing this park, which has been opened to the people of Halifax for months past, all the excitement being concentrated on the Picehall, where the school children were to sing. At ten o'clock, though the rain was as heavy as ever, long, wet dragged troops of, not children, but for the most part grown adults, filed from all parts of Halifax towards the Picehall, which is not a hall in the proper sense of the term, but a huge square inclosed by buildings, and as open to the weather as Salisbury Plain itself. There were about 10,000 performers present, and all appeared to be, without exception, most admirably drilled in their vocal duties, and sang, for such a multitude, in perfect time and tune. When a little pause in the rain came, which was very seldom, there was a wonderful furling of a great mountain of umbrellas, and cheers arose as the crowd emerged, all damp and steaming, from beneath their doubtful shelter. But these glimpses of hope were unhappily of rare occurrence and short duration, so that on the whole umbrellas and silence reigned supreme, till one or two preparatory hymns were tried before the arrival of the Prince. His Royal Highness came into the inclosure of the hall soon after 12. As the Prince entered the whole assemblage unmasked themselves from their umbrellas, and rising, greeted him with one of the most tremendous, hearty, and prolonged cheers that has been heard among the Yorkshire hills since Halifax was built. When quiet was at last restored the National Anthem was sung with wonderful power and effect. During the whole time that this was sung the Prince remained, like all the rest, standing and bareheaded in the rain. At the conclusion the Hallelujah Chorus was sung, and then the Rev. Mr. Morrison, the Curate of St. James's, presented his Royal Highness with an address from the Sunday scholars, which the Prince accepted with a simple expression of his thanks to the reverend donor.

VISIT TO HALEY-HILL CHURCH.

The cortege then quitted the hall, and emerged once more into the wet and half-deserted muddy streets, where the lofty rows of benches on each side were almost empty, or at best hurriedly filled by admitting the populace free, and where the massive barriers erected to keep off the expected crowds only served as leaning-posts to the thin rows of spectators. At some points there might be called an assemblage, but at none was there a crowd. Thus, amid muddy streets and always cheering people, the town was traversed in its outskirts to Haley-hill, where a beautiful Gothic church, founded by Mr. Edward Akroyd, and designed by Mr. Gilbert Scott, was visited. This exquisite Gothic building is placed on the summit of a high commanding site, which overlooks not only Halifax but the country for miles around. For a modern church anything more beautifully perfect than this, both internally and externally, it would be difficult to imagine. It is, in fact, a miniature cathedral, with its lofty spire, its clerestory of traceried windows, beautifully-carved capitals, and moulded doorways. The period selected by the architect is that of the latter quarter of the thirteenth century, the period when the Early Decorated or Middle-pointed Style was at its zenith. The ground plan is cruciform, comprising a nave with aisles, terminated by transepts and a chancel, with chapels on the north and south sides. The nave is separated from the chancel by a low wall of alabaster, and on each side of the sacristy is a rich wall arcade, supported on Italian marble shafts carrying foliated arches. The windows of the church are all filled in with richly-stained glass memorials given by various benevolent individuals and friends of the founder. Externally the church is equally beautiful, and the spire, which is nearly 250 ft. high, is especially graceful. The Prince was received here by Colonel Akroyd and the Incumbent, the Rev. Mr. Holmes, and by the architect, Mr. Scott. Accompanied by these gentlemen, his Royal Highness and suite passed some time inspecting the interior, with which they, of course, like all who have seen it, were much pleased.

OPENING OF THE TOWNHALL.

It was nearly half-past one before his Royal Highness and suite quitted the church and resumed the route to the Townhall, the opening of which was the great object of the visit. This really fine

and exceedingly commodious building was disfigured along its hand some front by a temporary balcony, to which the Prince was to come and proclaim the opening, and the effect of this was simply to ruin and deface the whole effect of the fine entrance beneath the tower. The entrance, however, though only temporarily decorated, was all that could be desired, and the fine proportions of the rooms, their admirable lighting, and moulded cornices and carved ceilings were admired by one and all. The saloon, where the déjeuner was laid for the Prince, and where the decorations were entirely completed, was justly regarded as a model of what the rich though antique-looking splendour of such municipal saloons should be.

It was nearly two o'clock before his Royal Highness alighted at the entrance to the hall, where he was received by the Mayor and Mr. Edward Barry, the architect.

In the hall itself, which was crowded with the élite of the county gentry, the National Anthem was sung, and a prayer having been offered up by the Bishop of Ripon, an address was read by the Town Clerk. To this the Prince briefly replied, thanking the municipality for the reception which had been accorded him, congratulating them on the completion of their fine Townhall, and expressing the warm interest which he would ever feel in the commercial prosperity of the great town of Halifax. This formal ceremony over, the Prince, accompanied by his suite and followed by the Mayor, went out on to the balcony in front of the building, and in a loud, clear, ringing voice, proclaimed the hall opened, amid tremendous cheers from the crowd beneath. After partaking of déjeuner, his Royal Highness proceeded at once to the station, and quitted Halifax by the 3.10 train. The Prince and suite reached King's-cross station at half-past nine, and arrived at Marlborough House a few minutes before ten o'clock.

THE NEW TOWNHALL.

The Townhall of Halifax is in the Italian style of architecture, especially designed for the position it occupies. It is a parallelogram, about 140 ft. by 90 ft., and at the corner opposite Princess-street (the principal approach) there is a tower 35 ft. square, surmounted by a spire, the top of which is 170 ft. from the ground. The exterior contains two orders of columns and arched windows, the whole being placed upon a rusticated basement. The upper story terminates with a high roof, decorated with ornamental iron-work, partially gilded. The tower contains bells and a clock with four faces, which are to be illuminated at night. The interior does not contain any large hall for concerts or assemblies, the intention being to use the hall only for business purposes. The council-room, Mayor's parlour, treasurer's and other offices, are entered from a central hall (fifty-two feet by forty-one), and adjoining these is the Borough Court, and other accommodation for the magistrates. The basement is occupied by workshops for the use of the Corporation, which needs such premises in consequence of its acting as purveyor of gas and water to the inhabitants of Halifax, instead of allowing these duties to be performed by independent companies. The design of the Townhall was originally prepared by the late Sir Charles Barry, whose death occurred soon after the commencement of the works. Since that time the building has been carried on under his son, Mr. Edward Barry, A.R.A., who, while supplying designs for those portions of the works which were left incomplete by his father, has carefully carried out as far as possible the original conception. The building does not attempt to compete with the larger and far more important structures at Leeds, Liverpool, and elsewhere, which are called by the same name, but it may justly lay claim to harmony of proportion, beauty and refinement of details, and fitness for the purposes for which it has been erected. It is built of fine sandstone from the neighbourhood of Halifax, and which appears to be admirably adapted for the execution of elaborate details. The windows are all arch-headed, and in the spandrels of the arches are carved groups of boys, symbolical of the staple industry of Halifax and its neighbourhood. These groups have been executed, for the most part, by the late Mr. Thomas, the well-known architectural sculptor, who, like the original architect of the building, did not live to see the completion of his work. The cost of the building is expected to be something over £30,000. It is much to be regretted that such a building should be surrounded by narrow streets; and it is to be hoped that, as Halifax daily increases in wealth and importance, some well-considered plans may be carried out to improve and throw open the neighbourhood and form public places surrounding the Townhall.

CAPTURE OF NANA SAHIB.

By intelligence received from India it would appear that there are strong grounds for believing that the infamous Nana Sahib, the Cawnpore butcher, has at last fallen into our hands. A telegram was received in Bombay on July 3 from Deesa, announcing his capture at Ajmere on June 22. Ajmere is the capital of Rajpootana, a place of great wealth, a hotbed of disaffection and disloyalty, and just the place to which Nana Sahib would be most likely to resort if it were not for the proximity of the important military station of Nusseerabad. This station is but fifteen miles from Ajmere, and is garrisoned by Bombay, although civilly under Bengal. Major Davidson is the political agent at Ajmere, and there is a detachment of her Majesty's 28th Regiment there. It is stated that Nana Sahib was tracked to this place by two Bombay detectives, acting under the instructions of Mr. Forjett, acting commissioner of police, Bombay; that the detectives traced a companion of the Nana from the Deccan to Bikaner, and that the Nana was found there a guest of the Bikaner Rajah; that he was allowed to depart thence to Ajmere and there denounced, his trackers having joined him on the road and introduced themselves as agents from a neighbouring durbar.

A correspondent of the *Times of India*, writing on the 29th of June from Neemuch, says:—

There seems to be no doubt of his identity this time. To make matters surer, he has been photographed with his beard, shaved, and then taken again, and this precaution has served only to confirm the impression of the right man having at last been found. The marks he bears identify him in every respect. There is no doubt that it is the "genuine article" this time, and several people, both European and native, have recognised the scoundrel. He possesses friends and sympathisers everywhere (according to his own statement), and had been promised aid through all the native states he had passed, in the event of another "rising," which he hoped to bring about in conjunction with Tantia Tope, who, he states, is waiting for him near Bikaner; Saloomber (the base of operations) and its environs already containing 5000 men, including many Bengal Sepoys, ready to turn on Nusseerabad and Neemuch. A full company of the 28th has been specially sent from Nusseerabad to "attend" upon the Nana. Regarding Tantia Tope, he declares that the wrong man was hung! Although the Nana had no time to tamper with Rajpootana, life and property are anything but safe, and the Bombay letter post was quietly looted on the 9th inst., five miles from this, with perfect impunity.

The Nana is to be taken to Calcutta or Cawnpore, to be tried for the crimes committed by him in 1857 at the latter place.

THE SCHELDT DUES.—The *London Gazette* publishes the text of the treaty for the redemption of the Scheldt toll, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Brussels on Monday last. The treaty is one between eighteen maritime Powers (the United States is not among them) on the one part, and Belgium on the other; and for the redemption of the toll the Powers agree to pay to Belgium a sum of 17,141,640 Netherland florins, of which the share of Great Britain is nearly one half.

THE POLISH QUESTION.—Some sensation has been produced in Paris by the issue of a pamphlet from Denta's, bearing the attractive title of "The Emperor, Poland, and Europe." Various rumours ascribed this brochure to divers official pens. "M. Mocquard," said some; "M. Granier de Cassagnac," averred others; but there was a general endeavour to persuade the public that the pamphlet was the result of direct Imperial inspiration. This publication develops the familiar idea that while England, France, and Austria stand together a war would be scarcely necessary, and that in the event of war becoming imperative the struggle could not be long, difficult, or formidable. Much of the pamphlet is occupied in recalling to Russia various benefits which France believes she has of late years conferred upon her—such as the conclusion of peace in the Crimea, the putting aside of all temptation to encourage a Polish movement, &c. The writer is particularly menacing towards Prussia—much more so, indeed, than towards Russia. If the pamphlet be official, it undoubtedly means that France will, if necessary, take up arms for Poland. If it be a merely private piece of work, its conclusions are not novel and its predictions are not important.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor returned to St. Cloud from Vichy on Wednesday. There is some talk current in Paris, and rather generally believed, to the effect that a party in the French Cabinet, headed by M. Fould, is endeavouring to bring about a displacement of M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The reason alleged is that the policy of the latter statesman is considered likely to lead to war in regard to Poland; and M. Fould, in particular, has all an economist's reasons for desiring peace. For many days past the report of the impending retirement of M. Drouyn de Lhuys has been in circulation, and it was supposed by some that the Duke de Morny would come into power—a fact which would be regarded as indicating a peaceful policy towards Russia.

The French papers state that England has positively declined to join in the despatch of an identical note to Russia, but that this does not imply any abandonment of the understanding which has hitherto prevailed between the three Powers—only leaves to the negotiations the character of separate action which they had previously possessed.

The first detachment of Mexican prisoners, who are to be located in the interior of France, arrived at Evreux, in Normandy, during the night of the 27th ult. The detachment consisted of twelve Generals, six Colonels, one Lieutenant-Colonel, three Majors, and two Captains. They were taken prisoners at Puebla, and are permitted to wear their swords, Marshal Forey having granted them that indulgence in consideration of the bravery with which they defended the town against the French.

ITALY.

The Turin Parliament terminated its Session on Saturday, after passing the bill regulating taxation upon articles of consumption and sanctioning the purchase by the Government of the Victor Emmanuel Railway and the concession to the Lafitte Company of the right to construct a railway facilitating the communication between Calabria and Sicily. The Chamber of Deputies also approved the levy of 55,000 conscripts of the first category and the armament of the National Guards of Italy.

A revival of brigandage is reported from Naples, where a mixed band of Neapolitans, Spaniards, and Bavarians lately made a raid in the neighbourhood of Sorra. They were, however, speedily put to flight by the national troops, and some of their number fell into the hands of the victors. The French authorities are said to have surrendered to the Italian Governments six brigand chiefs who attacked Santa Anatolia on the 7th of June last. Letters from Naples of the 1st state that the Italian troops are in pursuit of a new band of brigands, commanded, it is said, by a Spanish chief. This band is described as tolerably strong, and rather effectively armed. The chief gave out to the peasantry that he came to restore Francis II. Meantime he appears to have commenced the process of restoration in the old way—by harrying a village and then evading the pursuit of the Italian soldiers.

The French police at Rome lately made a search at the residence of the late Tuscan Minister, in consequence of which the Papal Government has delivered his passports to the Representative of the ex-Grand Duke.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor has left St. Petersburg to visit Finland, where the Diet is to be convoked, in order, if possible, to obtain a declaration of adherence to Russia.

Intelligence received from St. Petersburg to the 1st inst. states that the Emperor of Russia has issued a ukase declaring free land-holders the 2,000,000 peasants who are tenants of the Crown domains and appanages.

The tone of the Russian press is very warlike; and the *Invalide Russe*, the official organ of the St. Petersburg Government, plainly declares that if the Western Powers persist in the policy of intervention in Poland they will be responsible for leaving no other issue to the question than the arbitrement of war. At Moscow, where the old Russian party most prevails, the replies of Prince Gortschakoff to the notes of England, France, and Austria have been hailed with intense satisfaction, and the public enthusiasm has found vent in a grand banquet, at which toasts were drunk to the Emperor and his chief Minister, and a despatch was sent to the latter, thanking him for the manner in which he had expressed the wishes and thoughts of the nation and upheld the honour and dignity of the empire.

CIRCASSIA.

The *Courrier d'Orient* publishes news from Circassia confirming the belief in the serious nature of the insurrection in Daghestan. The same journal has a letter from Mouka (Caucasus), of June 20, which mentions an important movement, headed by an ex-Lieutenant of Schamyl, who, with a band which increased from 1500 to 8000 men, had been besieging a military fortress, and succeeded in cutting off the communication on the postal route from Nouka to Tiflis.

GREECE.

King George I. of Greece will leave Copenhagen immediately after the question of the Ionian Islands has been arranged. His Majesty will pass through Brussels, London, and Paris. He will travel incognito until after his embarkation for Greece.

SOUTH AMERICA.

A rupture has taken place between the Governments of Monte Video and of the Argentine Republic. It appears that, after the debarkation of Flores upon Monte Videan territory an Argentine steamer was seized at Buenos Ayres on suspicion of being laden with a cargo of arms destined for the use of the invaders. As the trade in arms between the two countries had not then been prohibited this strong measure called forth remonstrances on the part of the Argentine Government; but, these being unheeded, the latter, by way of reprisal, seized the Monte Videan war-ship General Artigas. Official relations were at once broken off, and it is said that the mediation of some of the neighbouring States has been invoked by the parties to the quarrel. Cordova, the second city of the Republic, is in the hands of Penazola and his followers, and troops have been directed from Buenos Ayres upon that point, with the Minister of War at their head. Fears are expressed that the civil war will be indefinitely prolonged.

BRAZIL.

Profound sensation was created at Rio de Janeiro by the intelligence that M. Moreira, the Brazilian Minister, had withdrawn from London, in consequence of the diplomatic difficulties arising out of the affair of the Forte and the Prince of Wales. The conduct of M. Moreira and the Imperial Government is universally approved by the public, who manifest a lively gratitude for the attitude of the English press and people in respect of this little imbroglio. Mr. Elliot, our representative at Rio, had requested his passports, and the application was at once acceded to.

MEXICO.

The intelligence from Mexico, via New York, represents the position of the French army of occupation as anything but a comfortable one. Detachments of native troops were hovering around the capital; Ortega was in command between it and San Louis Potosi; Negretta, at the head of a strong body of cavalry, was endeavouring to destroy the communication with Vera Cruz; and another significant fact is that no couriers had arrived at Mexico from the latter place for thirty days prior to the 1st of July.

Marshal Forey had sent a column to protect the mines at Real del Monte, which the enemy intended to plunder, and to destroy the engines. The Marshal announces that he is occupied in forming a Provisional Government, which, following out the intentions of the Emperor, will be composed of men of moderate views belonging to all parties. Marshal Forey is reported to have decreed the confiscation of all property belonging to persons whom he deemed opposed to French interests.

General Marin had taken San Juan Baptista, and Colonel Dupin had occupied Huatusco.

MADAGASCAR.

News received in Marseilles states that a strong reaction against foreigners—or at least against Frenchmen—prevails in Madagascar. The Minister who signed the treaty with France has been assassinated. The French Consul has withdrawn, along with his countrymen, to a distance of eight leagues from the capital.

MANILLA.

A tremendous catastrophe has occurred in the Indian Archipelago, the splendid city of Manilla, the capital of the Philippine Islands, having been visited by an earthquake, involving a prodigious destruction of property and a sacrifice of 10,000 lives.

On the 3rd of June, at half-past seven in the evening, a circumambient flame was seen to arise from the earth and gird the city of Manilla, and at the same time a most terrific quaking of the earth took place. It lasted scarcely a minute, but in that short space nearly the whole of fair Manilla has been reduced to a heap of ruins. The abomination of desolation has taken possession of her palaces, her temples, and her dwelling-places, and death and destruction have ridden triumphantly over the land. Scarcely an edifice has escaped without dead or wounded. The priests, their choristers and sacristans, and the faithful who were hearing the vespers of Corpus Christi, have been nearly all buried and suffocated under the ruins of the cathedral and other churches. The only church that has escaped wholly is San Augustin, the same that withstood the tremendous shock of 1645. The palace, and nearly all the public and private, as well as commercial, edifices have either been thrown down or shaken from their foundations. Thank God! not a single foreigner has been killed; but two, we hear, have been seriously hurt, though not dangerously. The Rodriguez property, left to the British nation, and where the British Consulate was, has been entirely destroyed, and is nothing but a mass of ruins. The city is deserted nearly, for the edifices threaten to fall suddenly, and there may be (though Heaven forbid it) a repetition. Before the earthquake took place sulphurous odours were perceived—rumbling like the firing of ordnance, and then like the approach of an immense locomotive and train. The flame that surrounded the city was seen from the bay to ascend towards the sky; and another, a tripled snake one, came from the land over the water to the shipping, and threw them up at least 2 ft. or 3 ft.; while on shore the earth has everywhere sunk at least 2 ft.

JAPAN.

News from Japan state that active hostilities had been entered upon. A third delay of three weeks had been granted to the Tycoon, and it was rumoured that native preparations for defence were progressing at Nagasaki.

THE INSURRECTION IN POLAND.

THERE is little variation in the course of events in Poland, encounters in different parts of the country with varied success being of daily occurrence, the accounts of these combats being diversified by details of the severities practised by the Russian commanders.

A letter from Wilna, of the 30th of July, gives the names of 118 landed proprietors whose properties have been confiscated by General Mouravieff, and another of forty persons, belonging to the first families in Lithuania, who have been sentenced to hard labour in Siberia. Among them is Count Kossukowski, Aide-de-Camp of Sierakowski, and the Abbé Szewietowski. The unfortunate prisoners had their heads shaved, were dressed as convicts, heavily chained, and escorted by Cossacks. The population accompanied them to the railway terminus with marks of the warmest sympathy.

There were rumours current in Warsaw that an insurrection would break out on the 9th inst. The National Government, however, issued a proclamation warning the people not to be led away by demonstrations got up by Russian agents, and assuring them that when the right moment for insurrection arrives the inhabitants shall be authoritatively informed and called on to prepare.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

WAR NEWS.

Our intelligence from America extends to the 25th of July. The position and intentions of Lee at that date were somewhat doubtful. It was at one time thought that he was rapidly retreating down the west side of the Shenandoah Valley; and General Meade crossed the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, and moved down the western side of the Blue Ridge to intercept him; but it was found that the Confederate General was closely hugging the line of the Upper Potomac, and fears were felt of another invasion of Maryland. This, of course, was matter of doubt. Another conjecture was that Lee had delayed there to carry across his plunder, and to take away the new crop of that fertile valley, and that he intended to cross the mountains into Eastern Virginia at Chester or Thornton Gap. In that case, probably, a battle would take place. It was reported that General Lee had been reinforced by General D. H. Hill, with 10,000 men from Lower Virginia.

It begins to be admitted by most of the journals, except those in the confidence of the Government, that the repulse of the Confederates at Gettysburg was not nearly so severe as represented, and that General Lee is still in a position to re-invade Maryland, if such should be his intention.

A North Carolina Federal cavalry expedition from Newbern had burned the railroad bridge over the Tar River and 5000 bales of cotton.

General Halleck was in receipt of two official despatches from General Grant, dated the 15th and 18th ult.—the former of which intimates the capture of Yazoo City by General Heron; the latter announces that General Johnston evacuated Jackson on the night of the 16th, without loss of artillery or prisoners; also that General Ransom had made an expedition to Natchez and captured several Confederate officers, 5000 cattle, and a large quantity of ammunition which was destined for the use of the army of General Kirby Smith. Confederate journals from the 12th to the 16th contain accounts of severe skirmishing between Johnston's forces and those of General Sherman, in which the Federals are reported to admit a loss of upwards of 500, among whom is General Osterhaus killed.

It was reported from Washington that unauthenticated statements of reverses to the Federals before Charleston prevail in that city, and that the absence of official intelligence strengthened the belief in disaster.

General Maury, at Mobile, had called all the able-bodied men of the city and county to report for duty in the defence against an attack from Grant's army.

The Mayor of Charleston had impressed all the free and slave coloured population between 18 and 60 to work on the defences at Morris Island.

The people of Georgia were arming to resist Rosencranz, and Rome was being fortified. The citizens of Lynchburg, Virginia, were organising for defence.

Much uncertainty prevailed as to the position of the Confederate General Morgan in Ohio. One account, said to be official, stated that he had been driven into a corner in attempting to retire from that State, and that the greater portion of his forces had surrendered, the General himself only having managed to escape, accompanied by a few followers. Later intelligence, however, states that Morgan's losses had been greatly exaggerated. On the night of the 2nd he captured Colonel Chandler and twenty-five men, who were acting as escorts; and on the 23rd crossed the Muskingum River, at Eastport, with 1000 men and three cannon, when he was attacked by the State militia, supported by artillery. After a short conflict the Federals were repulsed. Despatches from Cincinnati, of the 25th, report that Morgan had reached Washington, Ohio, where he was collecting a considerable amount of booty, and that General Shackelford was in pursuit of him.

Admiral Farragut's squadron in the Mississippi was preparing for an important expedition. Despatches from Cincinnati of the 24th ult. report that authentic information from the army of General Rosencranz proves it to be

still in the vicinity of Tallahoma and Winchester, with the headquarters of the Commanding-General at the latter place, and that all statements of movements upon Chattanooga, and Rome, Georgia, previously made were unfounded. General Bragg was still reported to be at Chattanooga, and had not retired into Georgia, as previously stated.

GENERAL NEWS.

The *New York Herald* correspondent reports from Washington, under date of the 24th ult., that Mr. Seward had proposed terms of peace in the Cabinet, urging his views by reasons founded upon the menacing character of the foreign relations of the Federal Government. His terms of reunion to be offered to the South are a withdrawal of the Proclamation of Emancipation and the restitution of slavery within its existing limits. Mr. Seward is of opinion that slavery has received a death-blow by the war, and that it will be better to leave natural causes to end it than to convert the South into a desert by depriving it of its labouring population. Mr. Lincoln is described as being in a state of great perplexity and to fear the opposition of the Republican party.

The *New York Herald* announces from Washington that the 300,000 fresh troops called for under the present draught are not designed for service in the South, but are to be drilled and held in reserve against the contingency of a war with Great Britain. The *Herald* urges President Lincoln to enlist the sympathy of all men, North and South, by declaring an intention to drive the English from Canada and the French from Mexico.

Notice had been sent to the Confederate Government that if Captains Sawyer and Flynn, now held in close confinement in Richmond, were executed, in retaliation for the hanging of two spies by General Burnside at Sandusky, Ohio, General W. F. Lee and Captain Winder, now in the hands of the Federals, would suffer a like fate.

Mr. Whiting, solicitor of the War Department, had been dispatched to Europe as the accredited agent of the United States to the European ports, and the legal adviser of Messrs. Adams and Dayton at London and Paris. It is stated that he is instructed to remonstrate with the British authorities against the building of iron-clad vessels in British ports, which the Federal Government suspects to be intended for the Confederate service.

In accordance with the Acts of the Confederate Congress of April 16 and Sept. 27, 1862, President Davis had called out for three years' military service the whole of the able-bodied male population of the Confederate States between the ages of eighteen and forty-five.

The *Richmond Enquirer* says there are more than 100,000 men in the Confederacy who have hired substitutes for military service, and if they are not going to do more than this a levy en masse must be made, and they must all be taken. The *Enquirer* observes that immense crowds of foreigners throng the Provost Marshal's office for passes to proceed north. Their numbers would form a corps d'armée. The same paper urges the strengthening of the military organisation, and the application of martial law to the whole country as in a state of siege; the abolition of substitution, exemption, and foreign protection; and a material enlargement of President Davis's powers to revise the election of officers, and get rid of the incompetent.

The steam-boat Imperial, from St. Louis on June 23, had arrived at New Orleans without meeting any impediment in the whole length of the river. There was considerable rejoicing at New Orleans over the event.

An association called the Virginia Navy Company had been formed, and all its stock subscribed. The company intend to send ships to sea which will wound the enemy in his vitals without loss of men to the South. Though the great Southern armies be disintegrated, it is said, and the South compelled to carry on a guerrilla warfare—which she is determined upon, if the worst comes to the worst, so long as a spot can be held for the Government to rest on, or even if it lives as an itinerant, a guerrilla warfare on the ocean can be waged, thus insuring final triumph. The sea is the best element for the South, as she has no commerce to harm, with the prospect of years of war. Ships must be put to sea to the utmost of Southern ability.

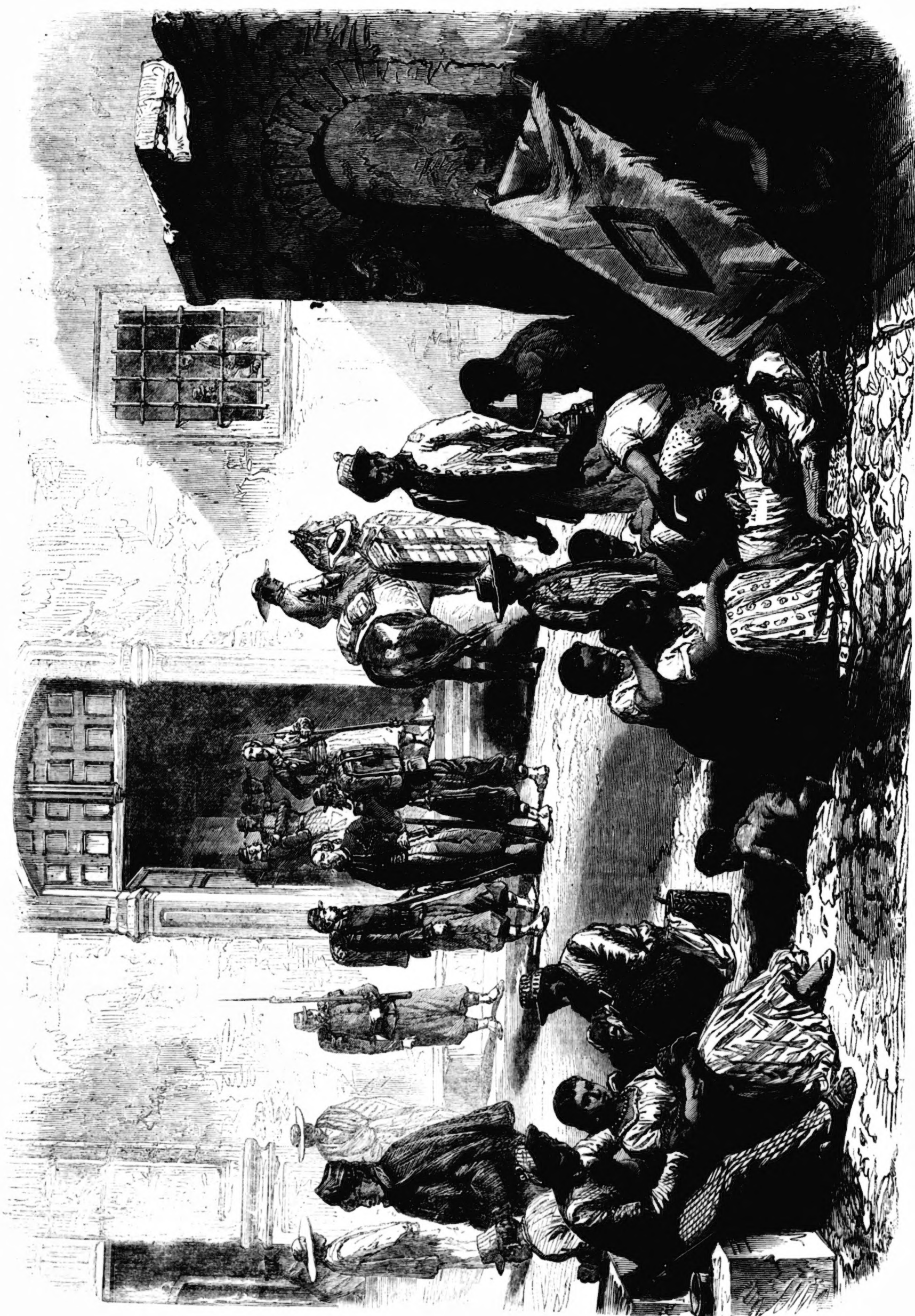
A committee from Governor Seymour had waited upon President Lincoln in relation to the suspension of the conscription in New York city, and had announced, unofficially, that the draught would not be recommenced until the quota required from New York State was definitively settled. A spirited resistance to the draught had been manifested in Maryland. The barns of two enrolling officers had been burnt, and their residence attacked. Forceful opposition to the conscription had also been made in several towns in Maine. At Kingfield, in that State, the officers conducting the draught were set upon by the mob, their papers seized and destroyed, and themselves driven from the town. In other places the citizens had thrown up earthworks to resist the enforcement of the Act. It had been decided by the Provost Marshal, General Fry, that negroes could be accepted as substitutes for draughted white men.

MEXICAN VAGABONDS.

IN almost every country in the world there is a class of the people who seem indifferent to any political change, and so that they can obtain their day's food without much labour and can enjoy a few of the common luxuries of their order, care very little to what Government they are subject, and never trouble themselves with patriotic sentiments. This is emphatically the case in those countries where a fertile soil and a genial climate provide naturally for the most common wants of mankind; and when a nation enjoying these conditions has been for ages misruled or oppressed, a large number of the lower order of people will often lead a sort of vagabond gipsy life, carelessly selfish, and utterly indifferent to everything but their own immediate necessities. We have already given some account of the various orders of society in Mexico; and it may readily be believed that from amongst these a large number of people are contented to subsist as easily as they can, not publicly meddling with politics, but ready to take personal advantage of any new state of things. Not absolutely belonging to the pariahs or lepers of Mexico, they yet form the very lowest part of society, and neither assisted their own Government nor the invaders in the late operations of the French troops, but quietly sunned themselves in the public squares, and munched their water melons as they waited for events.

Our Engraving represents a group of these individuals in the very position which they occupied on the entry of the French army into Mexico, and we publish it as a striking illustration of street life in that city.

THE LIBRARIES OF CONSTANTINOPLE.—The capital of Turkey possesses a large number of public libraries, a general catalogue of which is now being made. According to an estimate which is considered reliable, the total number of manuscripts thus catalogued will exceed a million. Unfortunately, however, many of these MSS. have been so damaged by lying in heaps in damp cellars or worm-eaten chests, as to be partially, and in some cases entirely, illegible. It is also to be regretted that, until now, none of the treasures of the early periods of Byzantine literature, which it was hoped would be brought to light, have been found. It has, on the contrary, been proved that all the works of those times which are known to have existed have been ruthlessly destroyed. The remaining works are consequently chiefly in Arabic, or in other Semitic languages; but they form, on the other hand, the richest collection of Oriental literature in existence. Ahmet-Vafl-Effendi Sabhi-Bey and other Turkish men of letters have proposed that this inestimable mass of literary treasures be collected in one building, so as to render it accessible to students engaged in historical researches, and there is every reason to believe that this proposal will be adopted, notwithstanding the opposition it has hitherto met with. The first step towards the formation of an Imperial library has already been taken by placing 40,000 volumes of good works, in various European languages, and which belonged to El-Hami-Pacha, in the Dar-al-Fanoun, the building of the university. Orders have been given to increase this collection considerably, so as to create a tolerably complete library for consultation, to which the public will be freely admitted. Adding to such a collection the MSS. already mentioned, Constantinople would be superior to any capital in a literary point of view, especially if by some lucky chance the plays of Menander, or the lost books of Livy, or the remaining tragedies of Æschylus, were suddenly brought to light from amidst the parchments now being so carefully examined.



THE FRENCH IN MEXICO.—A GUARDHOUSE IN THE PLACE DEL ARBOL.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. BERTIN.)

THE REV. WILLIAM ANTLIFF.

THE Rev. William Antliff, president of the Primitive Methodist Conference, which assembled this year at Leeds, is another addition to the long roll of self-elevated men. His native place is a rural village in Nottinghamshire, a few miles east of Sherwood Forest. His parents were not affluent; his father, a tradesman and local preacher, being chiefly remarkable for his piety and good common sense; his mother, who died this year, was a woman of great energy and decided character. William Antliff received the rudiments of a secular education in a village school, which, like most others of that period, prescribed but a very limited curriculum; the instruction given being confined to reading, writing, and arithmetic, in each of which Mr. Antliff excelled. His religious education was conducted by his father.

When very young, Mr. Antliff joined the society of Primitive Methodists. From childhood he had evinced a predilection for the ministry, and at a very early age he began to preach in cottages, and attracted considerable attention in the different villages to which he went. The success with which he preached, and the talents he manifestly possessed, caused the Primitive Methodists to assign him a wider sphere of activity by appointing him to the duties of a circuit a considerable time before he had attained the twenty-first year of his age, and his subsequent course has justified the wisdom of this early appointment. His labours as a Primitive Methodist minister have been very great, and have been continued upwards of thirty years, without impairing his energies, all of which appear to be now in full vigour.

His studies have embraced the classics; Biblical criticism; history, both ecclesiastical and secular; logic and rhetoric; physiology, mental philosophy, and several other subjects, in each of which he has made considerable progress. His knowledge of his vernacular language is more than usually thorough and correct.

As a minister and a lecturer, Mr. Antliff is highly esteemed, both by his own denomination and by other Churches. Indeed, he is perhaps the most popular speaker in his own community, and has but few superior in other Churches. As a debater he has no superior in the Primitive Methodist Conference, in which he is a leading spirit. His utterance is remarkably rapid, but very distinct and impressive. His voice is a clear, strong bass. His most prominent mental qualities are quickness of perception, distinctness of thought, and a strong tendency to irony and satire; but these qualities of mind are associated with generous feelings, and are under the guidance of a sound, discriminating judgment. He never stood so high in public estimation as at present. He is the editor of the Primitive Methodist magazines, &c., and the author of several small books and pamphlets.

The ability and courtesy with which Mr. Antliff filled the presidential chair in the recent Conference were such as to call forth the warmest expressions of approval and gratification on the part of the assembled delegates.



THE REV. WILLIAM ANTLIFF, PRESIDENT OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The Portrait of the rev. gentleman which we publish in this Number is considered to be an excellent likeness.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AT VICHY.

THE little town of Vichy and its pretty environs are occupied this year by a larger number of guests than have ever visited them before. The French Court has accepted the place as its permanent retreat for the season, and the two new pavilions erected for the Emperor have established its fortunes. Not that these buildings are to be confounded with palaces; they are at best

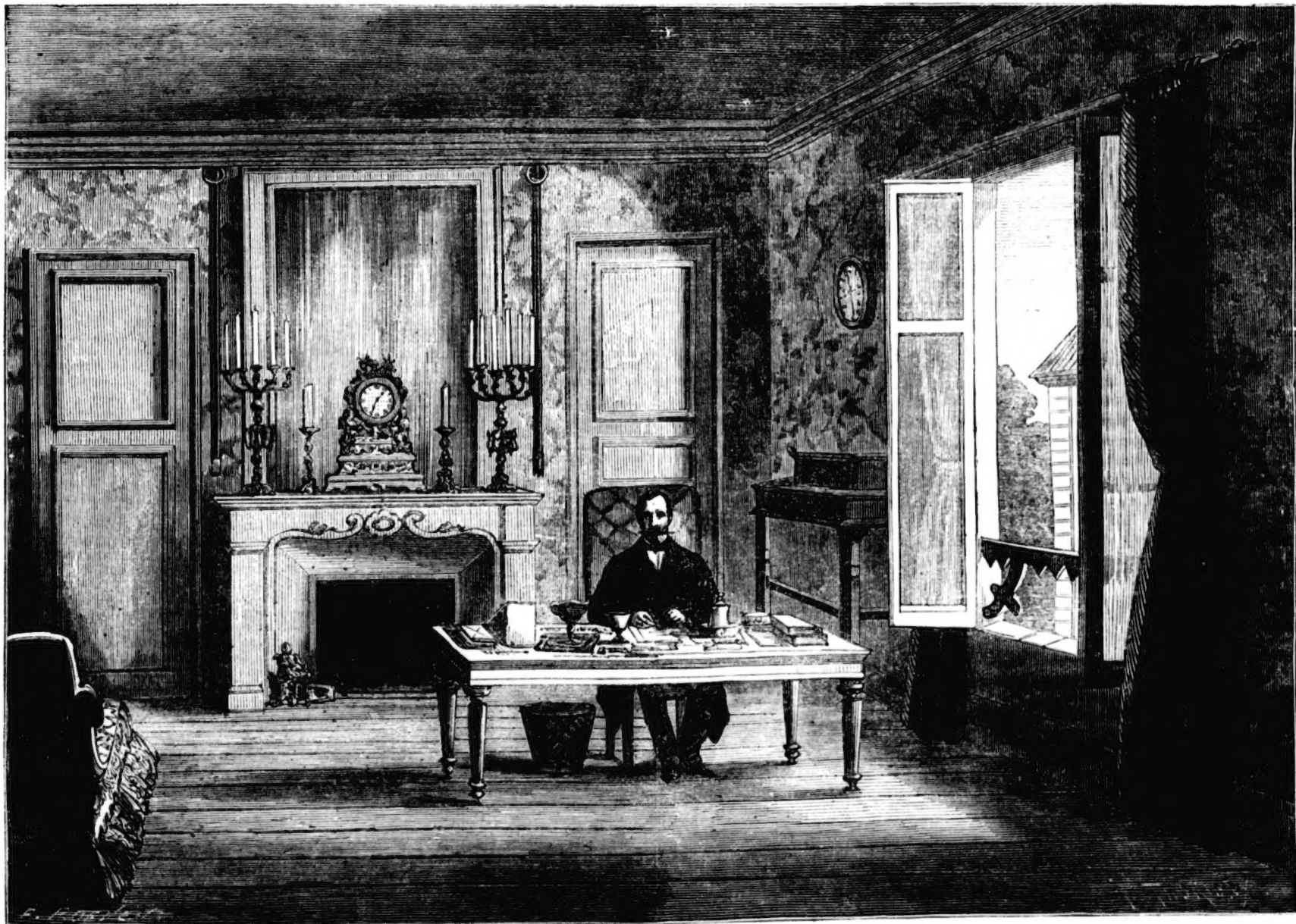
but a pair of elegant villas, and many of the internal arrangements are as plain as the most utilitarian taste could desire. The Emperor's private cabinet, of which we give an engraving, is almost bare and cold in the severe absence of ornament. It is difficult to account for his Majesty's choice, unless reminiscences of the conditions under which his earlier works were composed should still have some influence with him, and his apartment in the fortress at Ham has afforded a model for the Imperial study. In this plain, modest room, however, the most active brain in Europe is not idle. The place means uncompromising work, and here may be said to originate the policy for which all Europe is frequently kept waiting. There is something attractive, after all, in the plainness of that square, uncarpeted room, with its bare walls and great writing-table. The real forces of government are, even in France, distinct from the pageantry and luxury which attend its public exhibition. The whole of the Emperor's apartments are furnished in the same unpretentious style, the bedroom being, if possible, even less ornamental than the study. The retreat at Vichy is a decided contrast to the ordinary State apartments in the capital.

It is of course obvious that the town itself has profited largely by the Royal residence. The whole of the "thermal" establishments have been re-appointed with great luxury, and some new buildings have been erected. An entirely new bath-house is projected for next season, and it is also proposed to establish a magnificent casino at the southern extremity of the park. The plans for this building, which will stand in the midst of a fine garden, have been prepared by M. Daviond.

For the last two seasons the Emperor occupied the house known as the Villa Strauss, his suite being accommodated in a neighbouring hotel; but, designs having been prepared according to his directions, a local architect has erected two bourgeois-like habitations for the Royal party. Both are exactly alike, and present a remarkably comfortable appearance. On the ground floor are a vestibule, two sitting-rooms, and a dining-room, all hung with a plainish paper, and furnished in a very unpretending fashion—mahogany in the sitting-rooms and walnut in the dining-room. The first floor consists of the Emperor's bedroom, hung with lilac and coloured furniture, and containing no costly ornament whatever; this leads at once to the cabinet we have previously mentioned, and beyond this is the apartment of the Aide-de-Camp. The second floor is occupied by the servants.

The life of his Majesty at Vichy is as simple as the appointments of his dwelling would indicate; and, indeed, after the first enthusiasm of his reception, the people followed the request of a proclamation made by the Mayor, and respected the Imperial repose.

At six o'clock in the morning he repairs to the baths, and afterwards drinks the waters, promenading amongst the ordinary visitors. It is expected that the alterations which are intended to be made for next year will entirely change the aspect of Vichy, and it has become necessary to provide greater accommodation for the visitors.



THE CABINET OF THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH AT VICHY.—(FROM A SKETCH BY M. MOULIN.)

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1863.

A SURREY ASSIZE.

It is probable that few, even among habitual readers of the journals, care to peruse the law reports. To such, an announcement purporting to be official, and to regulate the course of procedure at the Surrey Assizes now pending at Croydon, may have appeared devoid of interest. The announcement was to the effect that the list of causes to be tried at Croydon during the present sitting would be from day to day so arranged as to save unnecessary expense to the suitors, and that the programme would be announced in London in time, so far as possible, to save parties unnecessary attendance at the Assize.

This certainly may be read by the uninitiated as a dry, technical announcement enough. It may, to the layman, require some explanation. That explanation can be given in a few words. This announcement designates, and to some small extent defeats, one of the most common, successful, and disgraceful pieces of pettifogging practice yet extant. It is well known throughout the legal profession that certain of its inferior members almost subsist upon, certainly carry out habitually, a system of extortion, of which the *modus operandi* consists in bringing actions at the suit of penniless plaintiffs against responsible defendants, and setting these down, if defended, for trial at the Assizes. The plaintiff lives, or pretends to live, on the south side of the metropolis, or he puts forward that the cause of action, which may be either partially or wholly fictitious, arose on the Lambeth side of the water. Or he may reside in London or Middlesex, and lay the venue of his unfounded action in Surrey, on the pretence of being too late to try at Westminster or Guildhall. The effect is, that the unfortunate defendant, in default of compounding an unfounded claim and paying the costs of some low attorney, is obliged to take to Guildford, Kingston, or Croydon, as the case may be, *witnesses to prove a negative*. The cause is set down late in the list, generally within a few of the last, and, after dawdling about the assize town for perhaps a fortnight, the defendant finds that at the last moment the plaintiff has withdrawn his record. All this costs the dishonest plaintiff and his no more respectable attorney about thirty shillings, and they may if they choose repeat the game at their pleasure.

We are detailing no hypothetical practice. Those whose business or misfortunes have led them to attend the Home Circuit can tell curious tales concerning such practices. One of these stories refers to an attorney renowned for having once entered *thirty causes* at the Assizes, withdrawing every one immediately before trial. There is also the famous case of a man who was made defendant by a sharper for no other reason than because his (the defendant's) surname and Christian name happened to be inscribed invitingly on a brass plate which caught the vagabond plaintiff's eye. There is the notorious set of "waggon" cases. For years a famous carrying firm was harassed by actions for damages arising out of the negligence of its carter. Witnesses appeared who testified in accord that at such a time and place (the latter usually in Surrey) the defendants' van did such or such mischief. The carmen could only swear that they knew nothing of the matter; and they were, of course, disbelieved by the jury, if not discharged by their employers. At length the confession of an accomplice proved that all these actions were the result of a conspiracy, and that the only element of truth in the evidence for the various plaintiffs was obtained by noting the exact time at which the defendants' vans passed certain spots.

The Assize system of encouraging costs, seeking attorneys to keep their witnesses for days and weeks in the country, while charging their own attendances and general travelling and tavern expenses, has been the foundation of innumerable extortions of this character. Her Majesty's Judges have been warned of similar practices more than once through our columns and through other mediums. We are glad to perceive that Baron Bramwell, even if alone, appreciates the extent and flagrancy of the evil. He has done his best to check it; but we would, nevertheless, venture to hint at one or two practical suggestions which for the future might be easily carried out without prejudice to the honest suitor.

In the first place, we would propose that no record once filed should be allowed to be withdrawn without cause shown to the satisfaction of the Judge upon such cause being called on; secondly, that no record once withdrawn should be allowed to be re-entered, unless on payment of defendant's costs of the day within fourteen days after taxation; such costs to be delivered upon reasonable notice. And, lastly, that no costs of attending the Assizes should be allowed, even to the attorney of a successful defendant against his own client, if such cause could have been tried in town, provided that the attorney had not applied for a change of venue accordingly. For there is only too great reason to believe that occasionally the attorneys on both sides are equally desirous of the increase of costs consequent upon a trial at the Assizes. But our suggestions would be at once rendered unnecessary if the principle of compelling plaintiffs to give security for costs were adopted in cases where such security could be reasonably required.

We assure our readers that these are not matters of merely professional interest. We speak in the behalf of the honest and the moderately wealthy portion of the public, any one of whom, for any cause, either trivial or wholly fictitious, is at present liable, at the instance of the most disreputable of vagabonds, assisted by the most unscrupulous practitioner on the roll, either to suffer extortion or to be put to the heavy legal expenses of an abortive issue set down for trial at the Assizes.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, at half-past ten, the Prince and Princess of Wales took their departure, by special train, from King's-cross station, for the north of England and Scotland.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE was, on Saturday last, admitted a member of the Fishmongers' Company.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA are to arrive, on Aug. 15, at Tallenburg, to pass some time with the Queen of England.

SIR ROBERT PHILLIMORE is spoken of in some circles as the successor of Sir Cresswell Cresswell.

MR. HUGO MEYNELL INGRAM is about to be married to Miss Wood, daughter of Sir Charles and Lady Mary Wood.

LORD BELHAVEN is to be the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Lanark, in the room of the late Duke of Hamilton.

DR. LE GRAND, of Boulogne, recommends the administration of ice as an infallible cure for diphtheria, or sore throat.

THE THEATRE ROYAL, JERSEY, was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of Friday, the 31st ult.

ANOTHER ALLIANCE between our Royal family and that of Prussia was arranged, it is reported, prior to the Queen of Prussia's departure from this country.

A SURGICAL AND MEDICAL REVIEW has been started in Melbourne, Australia.

IN MINNESOTA the Federal authorities now pay 25dols. for the scalp of a Sioux Indian.

THE KING OF HOLLAND recently barely escaped a serious danger, in crossing the line of the Utrecht and Amsterdam Railway—the horses of his carriage and part of the vehicle being swept off by an express-train.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF BALLOONS has been done away with in the Federal armies.

LORD CLYDE has had a relapse, and is now so weak that his medical attendants hold out little hopes of a favourable result.

A GIRL WAS KILLED AT LEEDS a few days ago by her dress, extended by crinoline, becoming entangled with the shafting of a mill.

THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AT ATHENS has annulled all political offences committed previous to the 11th of last October, and has replaced or pensioned off several Generals and Staff officers.

TWO SMART SHOCKS OF EARTHQUAKE were felt at Spanish Town and Kingston early on the morning of the 8th ult., causing great alarm and apprehension.

MICHAEL LYONS, who made a desperate attack on his fellow-passengers between Bletchley and London a short time since, has been committed for trial.

A MARRIAGE IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE between Count Bonde, of Björnö, eldest son of Count Trolle Bonde, a Swedish nobleman of immense possessions, and Miss Ida Marryat, only daughter of Mr. Horace Marryat, and granddaughter of the late General the Right Hon. Lord Edward Somerset, K.C.B.

THE LIBERAL PARTY ARE EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN ROME, in spite of the vigilance of the police. Arrests are of frequent occurrence, and upwards of 600 suspects are reported to be in confinement.

A MEETING TO EXPRESS SYMPATHY WITH THE POLES was held on Blackheath on Sunday afternoon, and was attended by about 1500 persons. Resolutions in accordance with the object of the meeting were passed, and the proceedings closed with three cheers for Polish nationality.

IN THE YEAR ending the 30th of June, 1863, forty non-commissioned officers received commissions in the Army—two in the Cavalry, nine in the Artillery, one in the Engineers, one in the Military Train, one in the Foot Guards, and twenty-six in the Infantry.

HER MAJESTY has been recommended to grant a free pardon to Paymaster Smales, and this ill-treated officer is likely to be appointed to a regiment as soon as an opportunity arises.

MR. W. CAVE THOMAS has been invited by the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education to furnish a design for a full-length figure of Albert Dürer, to be executed in mosaic, which will be worked by the students of the Female School of Art, and to be placed in one of the new courts of the South Kensington Museum.

A WOMAN HAS BEEN ARRESTED AT BARCELONA for practising magic, and in the very act of making cabalistic conjurations! In her apartment were found philtres to produce affection, pills to ensure long life, powders to produce death, a magical cat, entirely black, with the exception of the required tuft of white at the end of the tail, and a quantity of diabolical emblems!

THE ANNUAL ROWING-MATCH on the Thames for Doggett's coat and badge took place on Saturday last, and was won by Thomas Young, of Rotherhithe, after a well-contested race. There were six competitors.

A MEETING OF AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLONISTS was held in Willis's Rooms, a few days ago, to protest against the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Secondary Punishments that convicts should be sent to Western Australia.

MR. JAMES SHAW, one of the sufferers by the Winchburgh accident on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway, last week obtained a decree in the Court of Session awarding him £2000 as compensation for the injuries he had received. Mr. Shaw, however, died the day after the decision had been given, and before the result of the trial could be communicated to him.

INCREASED INTEREST in the forthcoming meeting of the British Association in Newcastle begins to be exhibited. The subscriptions promised amount to £3549, but £450 are still lacking for the satisfactory carrying out of the arrangements.

A FIRE lately devastated a portion of the château of Horzgowitz (Austrian Bohemia), belonging to the Elector of Hesse. The Prince had been for some weeks residing on the property, and directed in person the operations of those engaged in getting the fire under.

THE DEMERARA PLANTERS are taking active measures for the cultivation of cotton, which it is hoped will be of great benefit to them and the colony at large. Several acres of land on different estates have been planted with cotton seed, and the fields are in a flourishing state.

JANE HOSKINS died a few days ago at Romey, at the age of 109 years. She was twice married—first to a hawker, and secondly to a woodcutter. She enjoyed throughout life good health, and her death resulted simply from decay. She was a smoker of tobacco.

MOUNT ETNA broke out in eruption on the 7th ult., but subsided again the same day. There was a heavy fall of sand in Catania, with loud noises and a good deal of smoke. Another eruption was expected by persons experienced in such matters before long.

A GRAND FESTIVAL OF ODDFELLOWS took place at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday. The metropolitan lodges connected with the Manchester Unity assembled in large numbers, which were swelled by a considerable arrival of principal members. The entertainments provided were much relished and enjoyed to a late hour.

THE DUKE D'AUMALE is at present in Switzerland with his young son, who is studying engineering at the school for non-commissioned officers at Soleure, and has recently passed a brilliant examination there. The Duke de Nemours and Princess Clementine, his sister, are also on a tour in Switzerland, and are now staying at Interlaken. The Count de Paris, is in Germany.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT on the loss of the Anglo-Saxon has been published. The essential points of it are that the chief causes which led to the loss of the vessel and of so many lives were the omission to make allowance for wrong reckoning and to occasionally use the lead and the highly imprudent speed at which the vessel was driven during a thick fog and in the vicinity of land.

FOR THE LAST FEW WEEKS numerous parties have been engaged in taking for pearls in the Forth and Telf. A few have met with considerable success, whilst others have not been able to become possessed of pearls worth more than a few shillings. Large quantities of shells have been got and are still to be found in the Forth at Culteran, where numbers of persons of both sexes may be seen, especially in the evening, searching the river.

SOUTH KENSINGTON PICTURES.—Mr. Rolgrave, Inspector-General for Art, states in his report, just issued, that, notwithstanding the throngs of visitors to the galleries of the South Kensington Museum—nearly a million during the past year—there was no injury of any kind done to the pictures, and they are in a very satisfactory condition. A careful examination is periodically made, and the surface of each picture wiped with cotton wool. The dirt deposited on the surface of the pictures is found to be hardly appreciable. This is owing in great part to the arrangements made for a perfect ventilation of the galleries, the careful way in which the dust is removed daily, and the continuous cleansing of the floors. The pictures which, from their nearness to the spectators, are liable to injury from too close inspection are gradually being protected by glazing.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

ENGLAND has lost a notable if not a famous Peer, and Nova Scotia has lost a Governor: for no doubt Lord Mulgrave, as soon as he hears of the death of his father, the Marquis of Normanby, will abandon his governorship. This governorship was never very agreeable to him. He took it as a step to something higher—"went in for governorships," as he said; no second step upwards, however, presented itself. Out of sight out of mind; and there was nothing, of late years, in the political conduct of the late Marquis to make the Government very careful to keep in mind his son. Indeed, before the Earl of Mulgrave received his appointment the Government and the Marquis of Normanby had drifted apart; but Lord Mulgrave had faithfully served the Ministry and got his reward, such as it was, his father's delinquencies notwithstanding; and, in truth, the reward, I think, must be deemed sufficient; for the Earl of Mulgrave's services were not of a very high order. He was junior whip of the House of Commons under Sir William Hayter, watched sedulously the door of the house when his chief was away; contented himself with inferior dinners at the house when he might have got excellent dinners at home, which, no doubt, was to a nobleman of his gastronomic taste a great self-denial; stopped very late at night; and was generally present on divisions. These were the services which he rendered to the Government; and for these, I think, two thousand a year and pickings must be deemed a sufficient reward. But his Lordship is now Marquis of Normanby, and is above want.

It is difficult to divine the principle on which peerages are given away. They are certainly not always the reward of political subserviency; for Mr. Monckton Milnes, though he generally supported the Government, often opposed it, and more than once, when a vote was very valuable, he was found dividing with the Opposition. Neither are Parliamentary celebrities alone promoted to the other house; for Mr. Milnes can hardly be called a political celebrity. He did not speak very often, and when he did he made but little impression upon the House. Some have hinted that Mr. Monckton Milnes has been transmuted into a Peer because of his literary achievements. I do not believe this. The truth is, I fancy, that he is a favourite of the noble Lord at the head of the Government. He is a capital companion. This has been long known. Carlyle, in one of his books, pats him lovingly on the back for his good fellowship; and everybody who has ever met him in society has become charmed with him; and I suspect that this explains, in a great measure, his promotion.

But why should Colonel White be raised to the peerage? Well, I suppose that this is a reward for political services, and for these alone. Not that the gallant Colonel was ever of much use in a debate, for I never saw him upon his legs; but he was always right when the division came on. It would have been as marvellous a thing if he had gone into the wrong lobby as it would have been to see him get up to make a set speech. Besides, he has spent a mint of money in election contests. He once contested Dublin City fifteen days. That was so far back as 1823; and how many times during the last forty years he and his family have contested Longford County, I will not venture to say. Certainly no Tory was ever allowed to walk over that course. Colonel White, in June, 1861, found his health failing, and retired from the representation of Longford in favour of his son, Colonel Luke White; but in 1862, when the latter was made a Lord of the Treasury, and had to ask the men of Longford County to re-elect him, they refused, preferring, or rather electing in obedience to the priests, Major O'Reilly. Colonel Luke White, the son, was then out of Parliament for a year; but at last, when Mr. Bristow met with that singular stroke of good fortune—the appointment to the solicitorship to the Admiralty—Kiddermister took compassion upon the Lord of the Treasury in search of a seat and gave him one. Not, however, without a desperate struggle did he get returned. Here, then, we have a substantial reason for Colonel White's elevation. He has supported the Government through thick and thin, at the cost of a considerable fortune, and this is his reward; and, from all I hear, he is well satisfied.

Now that the Session is over, writers in the newspapers begin to speculate upon the unusual silence of late of the Conservative chief in the House of Commons and its causes. One hints that Disraeli has taken farewell of the Lower House, in prospect of being speedily raised to the Upper. But what does this writer mean by taking farewell? Disraeli has been unusually reticent during the last two months, and has much oftener than usual gone home early; but I do not see how this can be interpreted as taking a farewell, unless, indeed, we are to imagine that Disraeli, knowing that the Commons were soon to lose him, determined to wear them gradually, that his final departure might not be too great a shock. In truth, however, there is no probability that Disraeli contemplates leaving the Lower, and no possibility, at present, of his migrating to the Upper House. Lord Palmerston certainly will not move her Most Gracious Majesty to confer a peerage upon such an uncompromising foe; and it is equally sure, I think, that her Majesty will not of her own motion and grace dream of making the offer. No; the cause of the unusual silence of the Conservative leader lies nearer than this. He was silent because he knew not what to say. The Conservative party is so split up into factions that, say what he would, he would be sure to offend some one, and so he was silent. His steering was so difficult that, turn which way he would, he was sure to run foul of something, and so he determined to reef his sails and lay-to. I hear that he has gone away awfully chagrined with the result of the Session; and this I can well understand. His prospects were not bright when Parliament opened, but now at its close there are no prospects; not a glimmer of light—nothing but a thick fog, which has dropped like a black, closed curtain so close to him that, in vulgar phrase, he cannot see an inch before his nose. In his present baffled condition it would certainly be a charity if Lord Palmerston would, like the Homeric gods of old, descend and convey him to an upper sphere; but I do not believe that he will. Lord Palmerston is famous for sticking to his friends; and to his enemies also, for that matter, but in a different sense.

The Government has lost a seat by the elevation of Mr. Monckton Milnes; for Major Waterhouse, a Conservative, has been elected for Pontefract. The loss, however, in the present state of parties, is probably only nominal. Major Waterhouse will no doubt fall into the ruck and support Lord Palmerston. "I am the most popular man in England," said his Lordship, "but I cannot get my men elected." "We gain the elections," said a Conservative leader, "but we gain nothing more."

For three years the Irish members and their friends have been badgering the Government for the Galway subsidy, and now, it appears, this subsidy has been granted at last. But, query—has it been absolutely granted? Is there no outstanding condition to be complied with? Are the ships all ready? Rumour whispers in my ear that still the business is not quite settled. But if it be settled—if the Galway Company are really about to touch the cash, then let no jobber despair. There is not the slightest reason why another company should be subsidized. It was a job to renew the subsidy to Cunard. There are several companies ready and willing to take the mails to America for the postage. The Irish members have got this simply by threats and importunities. In short, it is a bribe for Irish support.

For the apostolic charity which "vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, and is not easily provoked," commend me to Dr. Begg and the Edinburgh Free Presbytery. The Channel Fleet, consisting of eight ships under the command of Admiral Dacres, has been stationed for the last few days in the Leith Roads, and both officers and men attached thereto have, after several fashions, been basking in the amenities of Edinburgh, rejecting civilities by showing all visitors over their vessels. To the ordinary intellect there would appear nothing in these facts whereon intolerance could possibly fasten. Dr. Begg's religious enthusiasm, however, apparently impels him to out-Candlish Candlish in the matter of much speaking and bigoted knighthood, for he took upon himself, in a speech to the Presbytery, and subsequently by letter, to request Admiral Dacres to prevent the good folk of Edinburgh seeing the fleet on a Sunday! Nor should the delicate modesty with which the subject is introduced to the Admiral be lost sight of. "It is a very melancholy thing," writes Dr. B., "that

you Englishmen should be so indifferent to what we in Scotland consider Scriptural views upon the obligation of the Sabbath; will you, therefore," he practically concludes, "be so kind as to take yourselves off, lest we should be contaminated by your contiguous wickedness?" "Stand off, I am holier than thou!" is the Biblical version of Dr. Begg's wonderful missive; for, as a local pen has pithily asked, Are feelings unsuitable to Sunday more apt to be raised by beholding eight ships at anchor in the Leith Roads than by contemplating eight carriages standing at a church door in the Lothian road? The answer is so obvious that we are bound to conclude that Dr. Begg considers English laxity a contagious disease, and that his flock are imperilled if they breathe the same air as the unholy tars. A mere sight of the ships cannot be the evil he dreads, and Admiral Dacres should have thought of this before he refused point-blank to comply with his pastoral request. It is all very well to say in poetry,

Grudge them not the breeze
That plays with Sabbath flowers; the clouds that play
With Sabbath winds; the hum of Sabbath bees.

But this is not "what we in Scotland consider a Scriptural view;" so we fruitlessly, thanks to the good sense of the English Admiral, flout our superior sanctity before our fellow-subjects, and, out of pure charity and brotherly love, twit them with indifference to sacred things. It is a pretty story, and redounds to the honour, good taste, and delicate tact of the religious section (I would fain hope a small one) represented by Dr. Begg.

Sir Edward Coke, when speaking of the Isle of Man, says:—"Upon sales or contracts they make the delivery perfect by the exchange of a straw." Probably this particular legal ceremony has been superseded ere this; but the Manxmen appear to be as tenacious of their old forms and territorial rights as when they rebelled against the assumption of feudal tenures and quit-rents by the Earl of Derby, whose Countess plays a prominent part in "Peveril of the Peak." The "ancient Lilliput," as Scott terms the island, is painfully agitated just now on the subject of some recently constructed roads, and as to the extent of the Crown rights over its common lands. The Copyhold, Inclosure, and Tithe Commissioners, sitting in St. James's-square, have, in the ordinary course of their duty, issued tenders, and had certain roads constructed for the public good. Whereupon the Manxmen take alarm, asseverate virulently that their liberties are assailed, assert that the work has been performed at a charge of five times the legitimate amount, and hint significantly that a large share of the sums paid has "found its way back to London." This charming imputation on the honour of the commissioners has even been indorsed and propagated by the Manx press, and the fact of the contractor employed being an Englishman is bitterly harped upon by the sensitive islanders. The commissioners, in reporting their proceedings to the Lieutenant-Governor, show that no Manxman tendered for the contract, that they accepted the lowest tender, and that the cost of the road-making has been just a fifth of the sum quoted by their assailants. The final legal forms connected with this storm in a teacup will take place this month; and, beyond making a repetition of vague talk on forest law, and some specimens of dubious patriotism from "village Hampdens," the moral health of the island is not expected to be disturbed.

Why won't Mr. Cowper accord space in London to the statue of Sir James Outram? The committee are irate, and talk of offering it to Scotland or Derbyshire. Surely there is some misunderstanding here, for the fame and services of the "Bayard of India" entitle him to a place in the metropolis, and the statue itself is a creditable work of art. The First Commissioner has not yet made Trafalgar-square an object of envy to surrounding nations; and this refusal, if persisted in, will be attributed to a dislike to any sculpture not positively hideous. It is suggested that, as "the finest site in Europe" has been officially declared to be full, and as the Government have no power to restore the missing limbs of the equestrian effigy in Leicester-square, that Outram's statue might take the place of the mutilated trunk. Somewhat of a satire upon fame, this!

Before this reaches your readers, such of them as are shareholders in the Great Western Railway will have (long-suffering men!) assisted in one more attempt at a reform in the administration of their affairs. On Friday, the 7th inst., eighteen directors are to be elected, under the amalgamation of this company with the West Midland and the North Wales. Considering that the Great Western dividend has dwindled from a comfortable eight per cent to very little one half-year, and to nothing the next, one cannot wonder that some excitement is felt as to the result of this election. A self-appointed executive committee has been issuing circulars and proposing a list of candidates for the directorate, one of whom, a Mr. Fort, publicly denounces the misconduct of those who put his name forward without his consent. But perhaps the most melancholy picture is that furnished by a Mr. Benjamin Smith, who offers himself as a director, partly because he is a large original shareholder, but principally on the plea, not of special fitness, but that he and his fellow-martyrs are so dissatisfied with the existing state of affairs that they believe no change of measures and men can possibly make their position worse.

As this is the first year in which any medical officer has been appointed to do day and night duty at the Wimbledon camp, his official report is not without interest. I find from it that, including regulars, staff officers, volunteers, commissariat, armoured, commissaires, labourers, and shoelacks, the camp numbered about a thousand, out of which there arose thirty-four cases requiring medical treatment. Eleven out of these were accidents more or less slight (with one or two exceptions), and out of the remaining twenty-three some were thought to proceed from the water; but the doctor waggishly insists that certain "ingredients added to the water, together with damp at night after the scorching day, were the principal causes." It is satisfactory to learn that the camp is certificated as healthy, and that no case of serious illness occurred.

To say that the sister of the gallant Admiral Sir Sydney Smith is in such abject poverty as to be in the paupers' ward of a workhouse, is to provoke some curious thoughts as to the nature and scope of Government pensions. The sole surviving relative of the hero of Acre (a British Admiral, and a Grand Cross of the Bath)—General and Lady Mary Fox, and officers of position, not only vouch for this aged lady's condition and claims, but appeal to the public to aid them in smoothing the remainder of her days. Subscriptions are being received at Coutts's and by all the Navy agents; and it is difficult to believe that the sister of a man whose bravery and success were the talk of the country upwards of sixty years ago will not be rescued from a penury which is a stigma on Englishmen.

And this mention of the indigent relative of a naval hero brings me not inappositely to the subject of Greenwich Hospital. The agitation as to its maladministration, to which the appointment of Sir Richard Bromley gave rise, has not been entirely without fruit. Sir Stephen Lushington, the Lieutenant-Governor, acting in conjunction with the ex-Accountant-General of the Navy, has submitted to the Board of Admiralty a proposition for reform. Admiral Richards and Mr. Tierney, acting, as I hear, independently of the new blood, have taken a similar step. But the age of the executive officers of the hospital is not the least startling revelation I have heard concerning it. The Governor (Admiral Sir James Gordon) entered the Navy seventy years ago, and is now between eighty and ninety years of age; Commander Sir W. C. D. Dallyell, Bart., is almost as old; Captains Langhorne and Sweny are incapacitated through ill-health; all the Lieutenants but one are nearing seventy years of age; and the active work of the hospital must necessarily fall upon the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Stephen Lushington, the superannuated Sir Richard Bromley, and the only two Captains who are said to be in full vigour. With these facts before me, I am not surprised at the Lushington and Bromley proposition that when the governorship falls vacant it shall not be filled up, and that the business of the hospital shall be conducted by a naval, a civil, and a medical commission. I suppose it is too much to expect that reformers should cut the ground from beneath their own feet; but those best conversant with the subject are already saying that one commissioner is alone needed, and that the sole advantage of the suggested naval and civil posts will be to perpetuate duties and salaries for Messrs. Lushington and Bromley themselves. Be this as it may, any change

must be for the better, and the sooner all these genteel sinecurists are got rid of the better it will be for the proper recipients of the charity funds.

The Grafton Club has, I hear, doubled its subscription and entrance fee, the amount for each being now two guineas. Very small still, innocent people will remark. But, inasmuch as the "club" in question is so overcrowded that there is said to be difficulty in obtaining a table, it is considered dear for the privilege of restricting your dinners to dishes cooked on the gridiron, paying, be it remembered, both for them and your wines at tavern prices. The Volunteer Service Club is not by any means satisfied with the proprietary system; and though the committee have decided upon its continuance, a large section of the independent members wish the club to be its own caterer and to re-establish itself on the principle adopted in most other clubs. I hear much talk thereabout, and a voice from the Oriental has just informed me that they are there pressing the rule as to the designation of candidates, and that a recently-elected member labours under the unpleasant imputation of having been wrongfully described.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER. THE MAGAZINES.

In the *Cornhill Magazine* the story of "Romola," which in its three-volume shape has already reached its second edition, is concluded. It is a question whether the circulation of the magazine will be influenced thereby. The lady who still chooses to use the pseudonym of George Eliot, while undoubtedly the freshest, and healthiest, and most perfect novel-writer of the day (it is by no means hyperbole to say that "Silas Marner" is one entire and perfect chrysolite), has no faculty for development in the serial form; and in this, her latest work, has chosen an uninteresting epoch, and by extra elaboration of admirably described but uninteresting phases has considerably lessened the number of her readers. There are four articles in the present number which are only to be read under such stress of circumstances as detention at a railway station, or during a long wet day at a sporting friend's house, when even "Bradshaw" or the supplement of the *Times* is welcomed with delight. The titles of these articles are "Medical Etiquette," "Farmers," "Primitive Language," and "Geese;" and of them the second is by far the most natural and the best written. A criticism on "Foreign Actors and the English Drama" possesses the merits of plain speaking and common sense. There are few nowadays who care about inquiring into the whys and wherefores of dramatic successes; but these few will relish the paper in question, and will be pleased with the shrewdness and the impartiality of its writer. "Heinrich Heine" merited and has had a better critical memoir than that devoted to him by Mr. Matthew Arnold, who writes priggishly and pedantically at his best, and wants to dash his lemonade with more than a soupçon of maraschino before he can appreciate the wild genius of Heine. What style of audience does Mr. Arnold imagine he appeals to when he explains that M. Scribe was a favourite French dramatist? A very improbable story, called "Mrs. Archie," is so very well told as to be thoroughly readable; and Mr. Trollope's "Small House at Allington" is a marvel of excellence. He is the only novelist who gives such dialogue as is actually spoken in every-day life, utterly divested of that meretricious "company slang" in which other writers find it necessary to deal. The gem of the magazine is an essay (which, though unsigned and not headed as a "Roundabout" paper, is indubitably by Mr. Thackeray), "On a Medal of George the Fourth," filled with the most admirably playful satire, and brimming over with the most exquisite fooling.

Blackwood is a very readable number. "A Visit to an Insurgent Camp" details from personal experience the present state of insurrectionary Poland, and paints a by no means desponding picture of those engaged in the struggle. The writer does not see any prospect of an immediate end to the strife. He says: "There is every probability of the insurrection lasting through the winter. The insurgents will not attempt offensive operations, but will have enough to do to maintain themselves alive during the hard weather, which will also prevent the Russian troops from undertaking operations against them. With the returning spring, if the question is not settled by Europe before then, the insurrection will break out afresh; nor is there a possibility of fixing a limit to its duration." There is an article on "Novels," in which very great, though certainly not undue, laudation is given to "The Story of Elizabeth," and in which there is a kind word for "Church and Chapel," interspersed with sneers at Mr. Wilkie Collins, Miss Braddon, and Mrs. Wood. There is also a very interesting article, with copious extracts, on the recent translations from Horace by Mr. Theodore Martin and Professor Comington, and a genial, appreciative notice of George Cruikshank and his career. "The Chronicles of Carlingford" and Sir Bulwer Lytton's proings on things in general are still continued.

The readers of *Macmillan* have the advantage of learning what Baron Liebig thinks of Lord Bacon as a natural philosopher, which will not do them much good; but they have a fund of amusement in the "Letters of a Competition Wollah," which are said to be written by Mr. Trevelyan (son of Sir Charles Trevelyan and nephew of Lord Macaulay), and which are full of observation and natural smartness. To the following lengthy contribution is affixed the name of Thomas Carlyle:—

ILLIAS (AMERICANA) IN NUCE.

Peter of the North (to Paul of the South).—"Paul, you unaccountable scoundrel, I find you hire your servants for life, not by the month or year, as I do. You are going straight to —."

Paul.—"Good words, Peter. The risk is my own; I am willing to take the risk. Hire you your servants by the month or the day and get straight to heaven. Leave me to my own method."

Peter.—"No, I won't. I will beat your brains out first." (And is trying dreadfully ever since, but cannot yet manage it.)

Had an unknown author sent it in it would have stood but a poor chance of acceptance.

To the new number of *Temple Bar* Mr. Sala contributes two papers, one of the "Breakfast in Bed" series—a humorous account of his dinner with the Acclimatization Society; the other a scrap of Venice life, called "Under the Piazzas." Neither is up to his usual mark. The former is tinged with a slanginess never before noticeable in this gentleman's writings, and a portion of the latter reads like a contribution to our contemporary, the *Builder*. Mr. Sala must recollect that his great natural genius and his unwearied application through a number of years have obtained for him a high position in the literary world, and that, from a man of his status, the public look for something more than a recommendation of "J. L. Denman, Esq., whose firm in Fenchurch-street are endeavouring (and with constantly increasing success) to introduce Hungarian wines into England." A very seasonable paper, written in overflow of animal spirits and in the cheeriest temper, is on "Yachting;" and there is an article on the "Sources of the Nile," which utterly denies that Captains Speke and Grant have achieved the feat with which they are credited. There is also a biographical and critical paper on "Marmontel;" a humorous and naturally-told story, "Our Engagement;" and two very pretty poems—one of them by Mr. Mortimer Collins.

In the *St. James's Magazine* there is a good, fresh description of a "Harvest Home," written with simplicity, as suits the subject. A singular story about the duel between one of the Lennox family and the late Duke of York is called "A Romance of Wimbledon Common." The series "Secrets of my Office—by a Bill-broker," is far better than its title would lead one to suppose. It is not, as might be imagined, one of that family of detectives' note-books, or Judges' diaries, or hospital nurses' nightcaps, with which the town has been inundated. "A Piece of Plate" is a readable paper, and would have been quite as readable without its writer's title—"By Sir C. F. Lascelles Wrasall, Bart.," being quoted in the table of contents. Of Mr. or Mrs. Kingswood Clare's poetical talents, judge by the following specimen:—

Now rest thee on thy couch; each silken pillow
Shall by my hand be soft and easy made;
Heavily sweeps the curtains' festoon'd crimson,
Mellow the lamplight through that Persian shade.

The August number of *Good Words* is noticeable for the commencement of a new tale by the "East Lynne" authoress, called "Martin Ware's Temptation;" for an essay by A. K. H. B., "Concerning the Right and the Wrong Tack;" for a very sweet poem, "In the June Twilight," by Miss Mulock; for some mediocre verses by Mr. Gerald Massey, with an utterly unintelligible illustration; and for Dr. Guthrie's explanation of the parables. The contributor of "A Bundle of Old Letters," who says he heard a sailor say to a Frenchwoman "Parlez vous Français?"—down the cabin-stairs, if you please, Ma'am," should be told that the joke is in Joe Miller, p. 73, four lines from the top, and that it has more recently been told by Mr. Samuel Lover, in a public entertainment, with the substitution of "then lend me the loan of a gridiron" for the cabin-stairs.

In the *Victoria Magazine* Mr. George Macdonald sings "Songs of the Summer Nights" with a Tennysonian ring, which he does not require, being quite poetically strong enough by himself; and Miss Ida Craig contributes two stanzas which she, and Miss Emily Faithfull, imagine to be poetry. Mrs. Oliphant has a very good story; and the Rev. F. D. Maurice an interesting, and of course earnest, paper on "Sisterhood."

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

As most of the theatres are now closed, or on the verge of closing, I shall next week give a short résumé of the dramatic season of '63.

THE NEW YORK RIOTS.

In our last week's Number we published an account of the destructive riots which took place in New York in resistance to the draught for the army. We now give a couple of Engravings illustrative of what scenes the Empire City was the theatre for several successive days. One of these Engravings represents the destruction by the mob of the office of the Provost Marshal, and the other an attack by that officer's guard upon the rioters.

DESTRUCTION OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

Early on Monday morning, the 13th of July, a number of individuals began to parade the streets in the upper part of the city to collect recruits to enable them to accomplish their designs. Workmen left their shops, many of them willingly; while those who showed an inclination to hang back were compelled to fall into the ranks by threats of violence unless they complied. When they considered themselves sufficiently numerous to make a demonstration, the procession headed towards the office of the Deputy Provost Marshal, where the draught had been progressing for about half an hour. The place assigned for the drawing was the head-quarters of the Ninth Congressional District, 677, Third-avenue, corner of Forty-sixth-street. When the crowd had taken "position," a stone was hurled at one of the back windows of the building, and then a simultaneous rush was made for the room where the draughting was in progress. The United States' officers sought safety in flight, and all escaped with comparatively slight injuries. The draughting-wheel containing the slips with the names of the persons liable was temporarily removed from the room; but it subsequently fell into the hands of the rioters, and was of course destroyed. After the officers and the room itself had been "cleaned out," the mob returned to the street, and, in the absence of any other object upon which to wreak their excitement, set about the demolition of the building. One of them quickly appeared with a can of camphine or some other inflammable material, and having saturated the floor of one of the rooms sufficiently to enable the flames to take hold of the building, set fire to it. The alarm was at once given, and the fire companies were speedily upon the spot; but the mob were not to be cheated of their prey so easily; they would not permit a stream of water to be directed upon the flames, and the building was allowed to burn till the walls fell in. To cut off communication with the lower part of the city was their next attempt. Telegraph-wires were broken, and the telegraph-posts were thrown across the track of the Third-avenue Railroad, to prevent the cars returning down town. Shortly after receiving intelligence of the affair, Superintendent John A. Kennedy made his appearance upon the scene. He was immediately seized and beaten with fists and sticks, and dragged for several rods over stones and through mud, till he finally managed to get into a carriage, and was conveyed down town. One of the draughting officers appeared, and was immediately taken in hand by the mob, who beat him in a shocking manner.

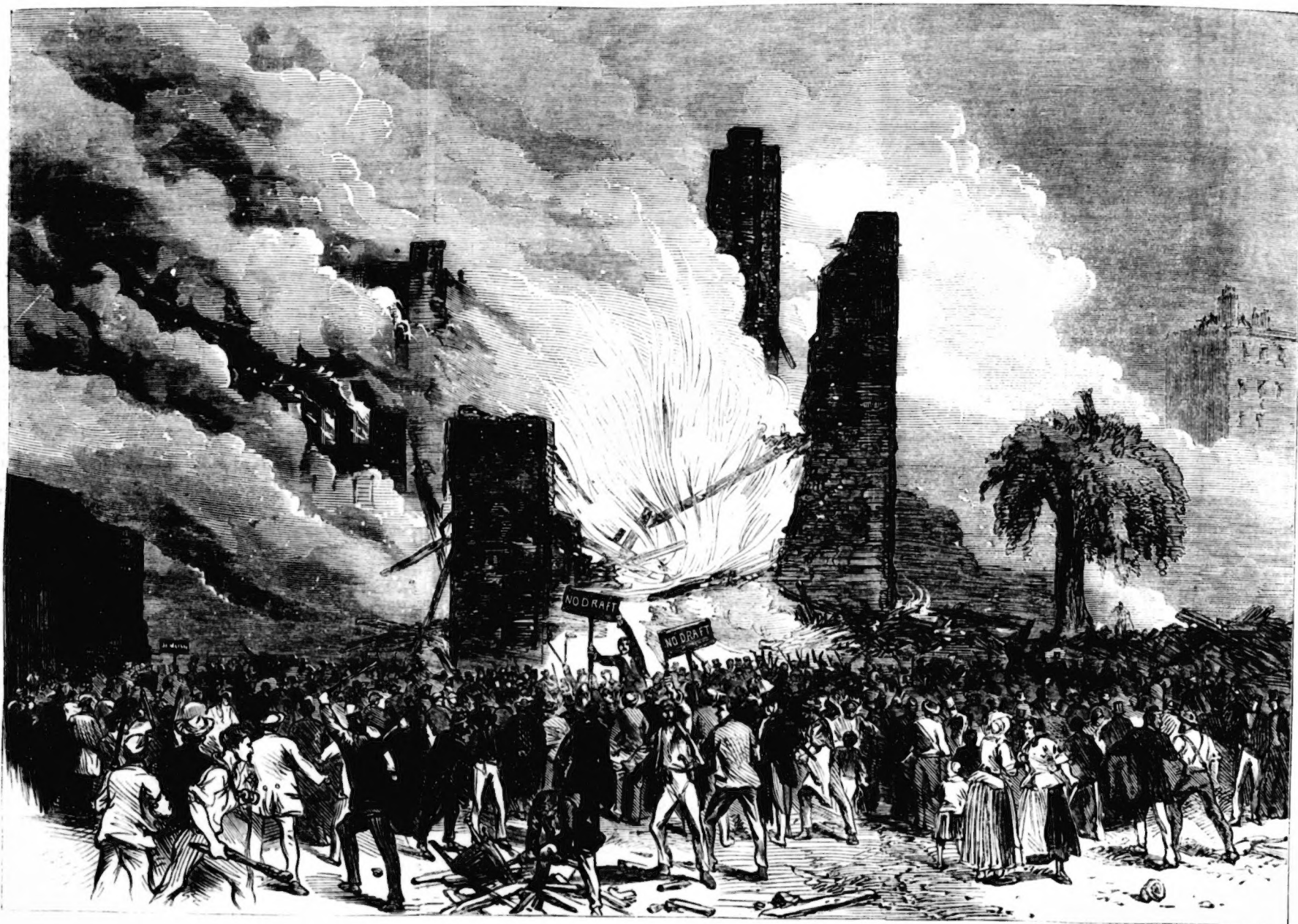
ATTACKS ON THE RIOTERS.

Throughout the entire city conflicts between the military and police on the one side, and the mobs of rioters on the other, were of continual occurrence, and the sacrifice of life was considerable. The following description of one of these encounters will suffice as a sample of the whole, all of which had similar characteristics, and differed only in this—that sometimes the mob, and sometimes the police and military, had the best of the combat.

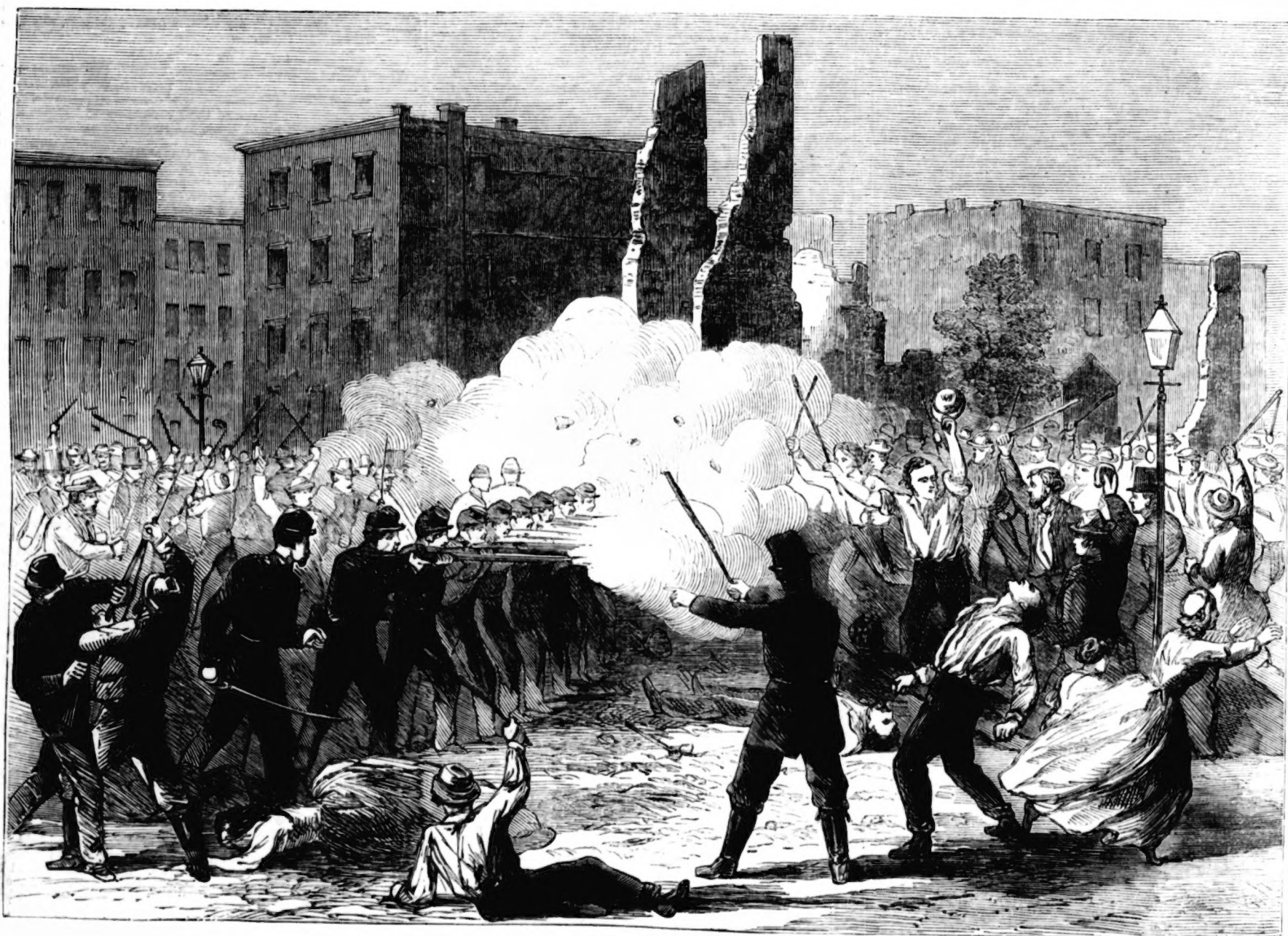
Shortly after the crowd had left Sixth-avenue, Company F, 12th Regular Infantry, Captain Putnam, headed by a platoon of police, marched to the relief of the district. Learning that the crowd had taken up their position at the corner of Forty-seventh-street and Fifth-avenue, and had thrown out a number of their party as far down as Forty-fifth-street along that avenue, they determined to break the line by turning up Forty-sixth-street, from the Sixth to Fifth-avenue. They had previously proceeded at a steady marching pace, but now they quickened their steps, and, dashing into Fifth-avenue, divided the forces of those assembled. A few muskets were discharged at the crowd, and created a slight panic, when the police rushed upon them with their batons and inflicted some severe scalp wounds and skull fractures. This movement, however, the crowd seemed determined to resist, when the order was given to charge, and the soldiers rushed upon the mass with their bayonets. The sight of the cold steel seemed to have some effect upon the mass, and they began to break in all directions. Some large force, however, still continued to resist, firing revolvers, throwing stones, &c., at the troops. A dash was made at the latter, and one soldier was injured severely over the head and disarmed, the victor carrying off the bayoneted musket. Another soldier was seriously hurt, but did not lose his arms. Some of the crowd were not so fortunate, and one of the men who resisted received a blow over the head from a baton, while at the same time he was unlucky enough to get a bayonet wound in the throat. Both wounds were serious, and he at once fell to the ground, where he lay while the police and soldiers rushed after the others. Each retreating party was pursued two or three blocks, and some on arriving on the Sixth-avenue turned with the intention of resisting further, when the foremost one was struck in the head by a shot from a revolver. Seeing their companion wounded, the men again turned to retreat, and the women, finding matters were getting serious, began inducing their husbands to return home. Having dispersed the crowd, the troops returned down town by way of the Fifth-avenue. Some few of the men followed the soldiers a short distance, hooting and yelling; but, on a motion being made to "about face and fire," the men "skedaddled" pretty rapidly. They then congregated in small bodies at the various corners of the streets, in the neighbourhood of liquor-stores, and for the time seemed to be peaceably inclined.

The last mail brings intelligence that all was quiet; that the city was strongly garrisoned with United States' troops, under the command of General Dix, who had superseded General Wool; that cannon were planted in all the principal thoroughfares; that the Government were determined to enforce the draught; and that it was believed the populace would submit, and that no further disturbance would take place. The legality of the conscription, however, was to be contested in the State Courts, and if necessary in the Supreme Court at Washington, and public feeling was still considerably excited on the point.

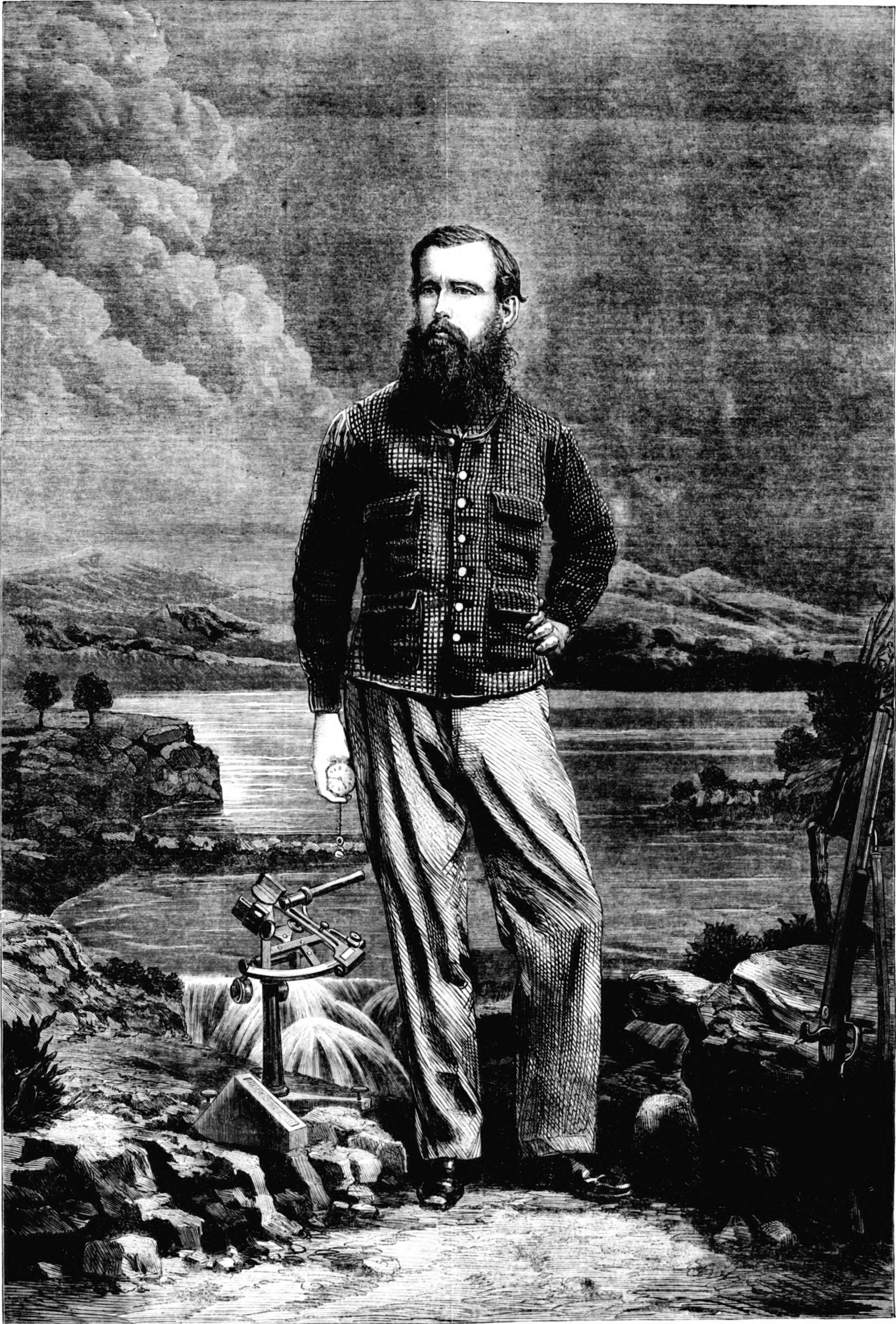
The Courts of Common Council and of Aldermen had held meetings, and voted 2,500,000 dols. to purchase substitutes for those of the poorer classes who should be drawn. This resolution had been vetoed by Mayor Opdyke, but at subsequent meetings of the two bodies named it was determined that the resolution already adopted should be adhered to, notwithstanding the Mayor's opposition.



THE RIOTS IN NEW YORK.—THE DESTRUCTION OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE.



THE PROVOST MARSHAL'S GUARD CHARGING THE RIOTERS.



CAPTAIN SPEKE, ONE OF THE DISCOVERERS OF THE SOURCE OF THE NILE — (COPIED, BY PERMISSION, FROM THE LARGE PHOTOGRAPH BY SOUTHWELL BROTHERS.)

CAPTAIN SPEKE.

CAPTAIN J. H. SPEKE, the discoverer of the source of the Nile, of whom we this week publish a Portrait, and whose name, along with that of his companion, Captain Grant, is now for ever famous in connection with the solution of the great problem which had interested and puzzled the world from the time of Herodotus, and, perhaps, even before, belongs to the 46th Bengal Native Infantry. He is about forty years of age, six feet in stature, and possesses great bodily strength. He is the son of W. Speke, Esq., of Jordans, near Ilminster, in Somersetshire. The Captain is sprung from an ancient Devonshire family, who, in Henry II.'s time, spelt their name Espek, and owned Bramford Speke, near Exeter.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

THE report of an English engineer on the whole of the works now in progress in Egypt, by which it is proposed to connect the Red Sea with the Mediterranean by a ship canal through the Isthmus of Suez, will be read with interest by both parties in the controversy the undertaking has excited. When the late Pacha of Egypt visited the International Exhibition last summer, he requested Mr. Hawkshaw to visit Egypt, to examine professionally the line of the proposed ship canal, and report his opinion of that work to the Egyptian Government.

Mr. Hawkshaw accepted the commission, and, accompanied by four Egyptian engineers, made his survey in the course of last winter. He was in direct communication with M. Lesseps, the president of the Canal Company, and states that he and all the officers engaged on the works readily answered every question put to them, and without hesitation gave him access to every document he required.

The undertaking of the company is twofold. The first and principal scheme is, of course, the ship canal itself, to be cut directly across the desert, northward from Suez to Port Said, on the Mediterranean. Port Said is nearly at the eastern point of the great delta of the Nile, that includes the whole of the fertile region of Egypt, the better-known part of Alexandria being at the extreme western extremity. The seacoast of the Mediterranean is the base of the great triangle, of which Cairo may be taken as the apex. Port Said itself is situated on the long, narrow spit of land that shuts in Lake Menzaleh from the Mediterranean. Through the shallow water of this lake the canal has been formed by dredging. This process has been so far completed that for nearly one third of the whole line proposed a channel has been deepened through water "covering the earth." It is only at the southern point of Lake Ballah that the work of cutting through the dry and sandy soil of the desert commenced. From this southern point of Lake Ballah an excavation, ten miles in length, has, Mr. Hawkshaw states, opened a channel navigable "for flat-bottomed boats of small draught of water," from the Mediterranean into Lake Timsah. On summing up, therefore, what has actually been accomplished, we find that such boats, adapted for very shallow water, can penetrate the isthmus from north to south for a distance of fifty miles from the sea; and of this distance thirty miles have been obtained by the process of dredging.

The second scheme undertaken by the company is independent of the first, and, though called a "fresh-water canal," is, more strictly speaking, only an aqueduct. It is not intended to be navigable, as the term canal generally implies in England. It is better described as a large trench or cutting, for the purpose of conveying the water of the Nile from Cairo northward, curving to the east, through a tract of land "purchased by the company," to Lake Timsah, before mentioned, and then southward to Suez. At present all the fresh water to be obtained at Suez is brought from Cairo by the railway. Large trains, conveying iron tanks filled from the river, are constantly passing along the line that conveys the passengers by the overland route, from sea to sea. The whole line of the proposed ship canal, from Suez to Port Said, runs either through the two salt-water lakes on the Isthmus, the wide expanse of Lake Menzaleh on the seacoast, or the soil of the desert, "a barren land, where no water is." Labour is impossible without a certain and abundant supply of this element, for the want of which travellers in similar arid regions have often perished. The aqueduct is, therefore, a work of necessity, if the larger undertaking is to be carried on. It will also be employed to irrigate such portions of the soil through which it passes as may be worth cultivating; and of this secondary purpose a beginning seems to have been made.

The portion of the Ship Canal still to be excavated is the whole of the line from Lake Timsah, southward, through another large sheet of salt water called the "Bitter Lakes" and the Desert that lies between them and the northern point of the Red Sea. This last section of the line will run parallel with the ancient canal, and a little to the eastward of it. The course of the old work can be traced, but no part of it has been taken into the modern scheme. The works of the new harbour will carry the canal through the water of the Red Sea, past Suez, and terminate near a point on the eastern or Arabian shore marked as the "Fountain of Moses."

It is scarcely necessary to say that the portion of the line described as completed and "navigable" is very far from the accomplishment of the object in view. What has to be done exceeds what has been finished in about the proportion a large heavily-freighted merchant-ship bears to a "small flat-bottomed boat of small draught of water." In fact, the Suez Canal at present is a narrow and shallow cutting, marking out what is to be the course of an artificial channel that must be navigable for ships of heavy burden, or be useless. It has been ascertained that the seas on both sides of the Isthmus have nearly the same level; and as the soil along the whole line across it is strewed with shells common to the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, it is evident that "at no distant period, geographically speaking," those seas spread over the desert track through which it is proposed to unite their waters again. But by far the greatest portion of the work has yet to be done. Without reference to the plans and sections by which the report is illustrated it is difficult to convey a clear idea of the proportion of what has to be excavated to what has been marked out by the cutting on land and the dredging through shallow water; but, if the reader will suppose that the furrow drawn by a subseil plough marks the course of what is to be enlarged into a ditch, he will have a rough notion of the approximation of what exists compared to what is proposed. Nothing has yet been done between Suez and the northern end of Lake Timsah; and from that point northwards to the Mediterranean nearly five times the amount of work completed has yet to be executed. The earthwork done is estimated at 7,848,000 cubic yards; the amount still to be performed is 31,000,000 yards. The cost of the works so far has been, by the French estimate, £1,220,000. Mr. Hawkshaw states that he sees no unusual difficulty in the execution of the plan, nor does he conceive that any contingencies can arise which engineering skill could not surmount; and, if completed, he thinks the canal could be maintained without any extraordinary yearly expenditure. But, considering the possibility of meeting with rock at the Red Sea entrance, and that the deep-sea dredging at the Mediterranean end may cost more than the first estimate—considering also "the money already expended compared with the work done"—he thinks it would be prudent for the promoters of the scheme to calculate on having to expend £10,000,000 sterling and five years of labour before a single cargo can be towed across what is now a neck of dry land.

THE SIX POINTS.—The *Kladderjacht* (Punch) of Berlin announces the Russian occupation of the six points in the following terms:—It is whispered in circles generally well informed that Prince Gortschakoff has accepted the six points on the following conditions:—1. The general amnesty shall be applicable to all those who have taken no part in the insurrection. 2. The armistice shall be carried into execution. The Poles shall lay down their arms; the Russians, on the contrary, shall retain theirs, to make the humane and enlightened use of them with which everybody is acquainted. 3. The confiscated estates shall not be restored, but their owners shall receive mines in Siberia as a compensation. 4. The conscription is abolished; all persons, however, shall be free, under pain of death, to enter the army as volunteers. 5. Liberty of conscience is guaranteed to the Poles—in the Caucasus. 6. The Poles, who like mystery so much, shall obtain their ancient Constitution; but it is to be executed in secret, so that no one may know anything of it.

ADDRESS BY MR. VALLANDIGHAM TO THE PEOPLE OF OHIO.

MR. VALLANDIGHAM, the popular statesman of Ohio, has issued the following address to the people of that State, by whom he has been nominated for the important post of Governor, and, it is generally believed, will be elected:—

Niagara Falls, Canada West, July 15.

Arrested and confined for three weeks in the United States a prisoner of State; banished thence to the Confederate States, and there held as an alien enemy and prisoner of war, though on parole; fairly and honourably dealt with and given leave to depart, an act possible only by running the blockade at the hazard of being fired upon by ships flying the flag of my own country, I found myself first a freeman when on British soil. And to-day, under protection of the British flag, I am here to enjoy, and in part to exercise, the privileges and rights which usurpers insolently deny me at home. The shallow contrivance of the weak despots at Washington and their advisers has been defeated. Nay, it has been turned against them; and I, who for two years was malignantly in secret league with the Confederates, having refused when in their midst, under circumstances the most favourable, either to identify myself with their cause or even so much as to remain, preferring rather exile in a foreign land, return now with allegiance to my own State and Government, unbroken in word, thought, or deed, and with every declaration and pledge to you while at home, and before I was stolen away, made good in spirit and to the very letter. Six weeks ago, when just going into banishment, because an audacious but most cowardly despotism caused it, I addressed you as a fellow-citizen. To-day, and from the very place then selected by me, but after wearisome and most perilous journeyings for more than four thousand miles by land and upon the sea, still in exile, though almost in sight of my native State, I greet you as your representative. Grateful certainly I am for the confidence in my integrity and patriotism implied by the unanimous nomination as candidate for Governor of Ohio which you gave me while I was yet in the Confederate States. It was not misplaced: it shall never be abused. But this is the last of all considerations in times like these. I ask no personal sympathy for the personal wrong. No; it is the cause of constitutional liberty and private right, cruelly outraged beyond example in a free country, by the President and his servants, which gives public significance to the action of your convention. Yours was indeed an act of justice to a citizen who for his devotion to the rights of the States and the liberties of the people had been marked for destruction by the hand of arbitrary power. But it was much more. It was an example of courage worthy of the heroic ages of the world; and it was a spectacle and a rebuke to the usurping tyrants who, having broken up the Union, would now strike down the Constitution, subvert your present Government, and establish a formal and proclaimed despotism in its stead. You are the restorers and defenders of constitutional liberty, and by that proud title history will salute you. I congratulate you upon your nominations. They whom you have placed upon the ticket with me are gentlemen of character, ability, integrity, and tried fidelity to the Constitution, the Union, and to Liberty. Their moral and political courage—a quality always rare, and now the most valuable of public virtues—is beyond question. Every way, all these were nominations fit to be made; and even jealousy, I am sure, will now be hushed, if I especially rejoice with you in the nomination of Mr. Pugh as your candidate for Lieutenant-Governor and President of the Senate. A scholar and a gentleman, a soldier in a foreign war, and always a patriot; eminent as a lawyer, and distinguished as an orator and a statesman, I hail his acceptance as an omen of the return of the better and more virtuous days of the Republic. I endorse your noble platform—elegant in style, admirable in sentiment. You present the true issue, and commit yourself to the great issue just now of the Democratic party—to restore and make sure first the rights and liberties declared yours by your Constitutions. It is vain to invite the States and people of the South to return to a Union without a Constitution, and dishonoured and polluted by repeated and most aggravated exactions of tyrannical power. It is base in yourselves and treasonable to your posterity to surrender these liberties and rights to the creatures whom your own breath created and can destroy. Shall there be free speech, a free press, peaceable assemblies of the people, and a free ballot any longer in Ohio? Shall the people hereafter, as hitherto, have the right to discuss and condemn the principles and policy of the party—the Ministry, the men who for the time conduct the Government—the demand of their public servants a reckoning of their stewardship, and to place other men and another party in power at their supreme will and pleasure? Shall order or the Constitution be the supreme law of the land? And shall the citizen any more be arrested by an armed soldiery at midnight; dragged from wife and child, and home to a military prison; thence to a mock military trial; and thence condemned; and then banished as a felon for the exercise of his rights? This is the issue, and nobly you have met it. It is the very question of free, popular government itself. It is the whole question—upon the one side liberty, on the other despotism. The President, as the recognized head of his party, accepts the issue. Whatever he wills, that is law. Constitutions, State and Federal, are nothing; Acts of legislation nothing; the judiciary less than nothing. In time of war there is but one will supreme—his will but one law, military necessity—and he the sole judge. Military orders supersede the Constitution, and military commissions usurp the place of the ordinary Courts of Justice in the land. Nor are these mere idle claims. For two years and more, by arms, they have been enforced. It was the mission of the weak but presumptuous Burnside—a name infamous for ever in the ears of all lovers of constitutional liberty—to try the experiment in Ohio, aided by a Judge whom I name not, because he has brought foul dishonour upon the judiciary of my country. In your hands now, men of Ohio, is the final issue of the experiment. The party of the Administration have accepted it. By pledging support to the President they have justified his outrages upon Liberty and the Constitution; and whoever gives his vote to the candidates of that party commits himself to every act of violence and wrong on the part of the Administration which he upholds; and thus, by the law of retaliation, which is the law of might, would forfeit his own right to liberty, personal and political, whenever other men and another party shall hold the power. Much more do the candidates themselves. Suffer them not, I entreat you, to evade the issue; and by the judgment of the people we will abide. And now, finally, let me ask, what is the pretext for all the monstrous acts and claims of arbitrary power which you have so nobly denounced? "Military necessity." But if, indeed, all these be demanded by military necessity, then, believe me, your liberties are gone, and tyranny is perpetual. For if this civil war is to terminate only by the subjugation or submission of the South to force and arms, the infant of to-day will not live to see the end of it. No, in another way only can it be brought to a close. Travelling a thousand miles and more, through nearly one-half of the Confederate States, and sojourning for a time at widely different points, I met not one man, woman, or child who was not resolved to perish rather than yield to the pressure of arms, even in the most desperate extremity. And, whatever may and must be the varying fortune of the war, in all which I recognize the hand of Providence pointing visibly to the ultimate issue of this great trial of the States and people of America, they are better prepared now every way to make good their inexorable purpose than at any period since the beginning of the struggle. These may, indeed, be unwelcome truths; but they are addressed only to candid and honest men. Neither, however, let me add, did I meet any one, whatever his opinions or his station, political or private, who did not declare his readiness, when the war shall have ceased and invading armies been withdrawn, to consider and discuss the question of reunion. And who shall doubt the issue of the argument? I return, therefore, with my opinions and convictions as to war or peace, and my faith as to the final results from sound policy and wise statesmanship not only unchanged, but confirmed and strengthened. And may the God of heaven and earth so rule the hearts and minds of Americans everywhere that, with a Constitution maintained, a Union restored, and liberty henceforth made secure, a grander and nobler destiny shall yet be ours than that even which blessed our fathers in the first two ages of the Republic.

SCOTLAND.

HIGHLAND AND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW AT KILSO.—The annual show of the Highland and Agricultural Society opened on Tuesday at Kilsno. An admirable site has been found for the exhibition in Springwood Park, the property of Sir Geo. Douglas, situated on the picturesque banks of the Tweed. In point of interest to the agriculturist and the breeder of stock the show is generally admitted to be one of the best ever held by the society. The arrangements, carried out under the management of Mr. Hall Maxwell, are of a highly satisfactory character; and, should the meeting be favoured with a continuance of the beautiful weather with which it has commenced, there can be no doubt of its turning out a gratifying success.

A FOOLHARDY FEAT.—A few days since a party of sailors, ashore from one of the vessels of the Channel Fleet, visited the Scott monument in Edinburgh. On reaching the upper balcony, which is about twenty feet below the pinnacle, one of their number volunteered to climb to the top. By the aid of the carved niches which decorate the final stage of this Gothic pyramid, the daring fellow climbed up to the very apex, on which he stood erect, threw out his legs, pruned round, and waved his cap, giving three cheers. The feat was beheld by hundreds of spectators in Prince's-street with astonishment and alarm. The great altitude (about 150 ft.), and the slight and precarious footing the seaman had, rendered the exploit actually frightful to witnesses, for every moment he seemed likely to fall headlong on the buttresses of the structure. As he came down, a shipmate, stimulated by the success of his companion, also began to climb; but a repetition of the perilous feat was prevented by the keeper of the monument, who had hastened up.

ENCOUNTER WITH A FOX.—A young girl, about fifteen years of age, named Janet Ormickshank, herd to Mr. Gibb, farmer, Altnoch, Edinburg, Inverness-shire, was out one day on the hill looking after some sheep, followed by a little black dog. The ground was infested with foxes, and the dog, having raised one of the number, gave chase, and got between Reynard and his den. The latter, finding himself thus refused admittance to his own house, sought shelter behind a large stone, and baffled the dog by constantly running round it. He appeared, however, not to be much alarmed, though so hotly pursued; and Janet, fearing lest this enemy to her

flock might escape, contrived to get to a small height, whence she threw a stone so well directed, and with such force, that the fox was knocked down. Reynard, however, was not long in getting up again, and, advancing from behind his covert, showed Janet a case of teeth anything but inviting, upon seeing which she exclaimed in her own broad Scotch, "Faigs, my lad, ye need na lauch at me; I'll gie ye lauchan, may be." She fulfilled her promise by opening a tremendous battery of stones, and with such deadly effect that the wild old fox had eventually to succumb. Janet now advanced, crook in hand, and with a flow or two laid Reynard prostrate. Exulting at her victory, the girl threw the fox over her shoulder and commenced her march home, but finding the burden too heavy, she was reluctantly obliged to leave the carcass on the hill, but carried the brush in triumph to her master, who rewarded the intrepid girl for having displayed so much pluck.

THE PROVINCES.

PRE-HISTORIC MAN.—A most interesting discovery has been made in the new cavern on Hapway Hill, Torquay, of flint instruments and human bones. A short time since several human bones were found, amongst which was a lower jaw, associated with flint implements. The entire skull was dug up last week, with the frontal bones and several teeth in a very perfect state of preservation. From a cursory examination the skull appears to be of a medium size, with narrow but not very high forehead. Sir L. Palk has since given orders for the remainder of the cavern to be closed, and it is now walled up, preparatory to a systematic exploration, under the superintendence of Mr. Pengelly, F.R.S., and Mr. Keppie, who excavated the Brixham cavern.

A HARDY SEAMAN.—The small seaport of Brixham, situated on the western side of Torbay, and celebrated in history as the spot where William of Orange landed in 1688, is chiefly remarkable at the present day for its fisheries, and is the abode of a large seafaring population. One of that amphibious race is Clement Pine, the hero of this story. The Brixham fishers often go far in pursuit of their trade, and Pine, a few weeks back, found himself at Sanderland. He had had very bad fortune, and his ill luck was completed by the loss of his fishing gear. Being thus reduced to poverty, he was obliged to sell the trawling-sloop in which he had come from his Devonshire home. He was 600 miles by sea passage from his own part of the coast, and had no friends in Sanderland to help him back. Accordingly, with the money he was enabled to raise by the sale of the sloop and of everything else he possessed, he purchased a small boat, of which the extreme length is nineteen feet, and which is so simply and slightly constructed that it has neither deck nor cabin. This little shallop he provisioned with a quarter of a stone of biscuit, two pounds of bacon, one ounce of coffee, and a gallon and a half of fresh water. A box of matches and a compass completed his equipment. Thus poorly furnished, he committed himself to the perilous ocean, as Robinson Crusoe might have done had he determined to try and work his way back from the desert island to Hull in an open canoe. Starting from North Sanderland on Thursday, July 9, at noon, Pine reached Hartlepool about the same time on the following day. The voyage up to that point had not been very propitious, and for a moment the adventurous mariner thought of turning back. But this mood soon passed, and he again set sail. New misfortunes, however, awaited him. The spirit of his little craft was carried away in Boston Deep by a strong south-easter, and in this disabled state he struggled on to Dover, which he reached by the middle of Monday, the 15th. Here he gave himself a little rest, passing the night on shore, and while staying in the town fell in with some trawlers, who strongly urged him not to persist in the attempt, or, at least, to suffer himself to be taken in tow by one of their vessels. His pride, however, was probably by this time enlisted on the side of his feat, and he determined to go on alone. On the following morning he was up betimes, and once more solitary afloat, watching the heavens and the waves, and steering his course for Newhaven, in Sussex. This place he reached the same day, and, after stopping there a short time, pushed on again on his westward course. At Ryde, Isle of Wight, he made rather a long stay—viz., from the middle of Friday, the 17th, to the middle of Sunday, the 19th. On Monday, the 20th, he arrived at Portland, and was becalmed the whole night. At Teignmouth, which was made on Tuesday, the 21st, the brave little sailing-boat got on a bar of sand, and stuck there until flood-tide. This, however, was the last of Pine's misadventures. On the evening of Wednesday, the 22nd, the welcome harbour of Brixham came in sight, and the courageous sailor was soon among his old companions, who at first could hardly believe the story of his voyage.

SIR CRESSWELL CRESSWELL.

THE shock to the system caused by an accident has deprived us of one of the best and perhaps altogether the most valuable of our Judges, in Sir Cresswell Cresswell, whose death we announced in our last week's Number.

Sir Cresswell Cresswell was descended, maternally, from an old Northumbrian family, which had been settled for centuries on an estate of the same name. Towards the end of the last century the estate devolved upon two sisters. One of them married a Mr. Easterby, who, becoming possessed of one portion in right of his wife, acquired the other moiety by purchase, and, thus uniting the possession of the estate in his own person, assumed the old family name. Sir Cresswell was the fourth son of this union. He was born in 1794. Having received his education at the Charter House, and subsequently at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he entered at the Middle Temple, and was called to the Bar in 1819. His family connections naturally led him to select the Northern Circuit, and his weight and capacity as a lawyer soon began to make themselves felt. Family influence might have something to do with his first start in the profession, but a starting-point was all he wanted. It was soon found that there was no important case in the circuit which did not include amongst the list of counsel engaged on the one side or the other the name of Mr. Cresswell; and in 1834, having by that time attained the position of leader in his circuit, he received the silk gown during the short chancellorship of Lord Lyndhurst. Up to that period Mr. Cresswell had taken no part in politics, but had closely attended to the duties of his profession. In 1837, however, he was elected as a Conservative for Liverpool, ousting Mr. W. Ewart, the present member for the Duffries burghs, and retained his seat until he was raised to the Bench. He was not, however, a very ardent politician, nor was he particularly successful in the House of Commons. His position was made before he was a member of Parliament, and his seat for Liverpool neither advanced nor retarded him in his career. When Mr. Littledale was asked by the Patronage Secretary of the Treasury what his politics were, he replied that he was a special pleader. Cresswell could not have given this answer; but when he was made one of the Justices of the Queen's Bench, in 1842, it was because he was a sound lawyer, and certainly not because he was a member for Liverpool. He fully answered all expectations formed of him as a lawyer. He was what is called a "strong" Judge. This is to say, he was not only a learned Judge, but a man who would have his own way. He had sufficient confidence in himself, a sufficient contempt for his audience, and a sufficient power of saying very disagreeable truths at proper times to keep every one in awe of him.

The work by which, however, Sir Cresswell Cresswell will be remembered is the creation of the Divorce Court, over which he was appointed to preside in January, 1858. It was an experiment, distrusted at the time by the public, and most dangerous to the reputation of the man who should first undertake it. Sir Cresswell Cresswell's confidence in himself allowed him to accept it, and, as that self-confidence was, fortunately, in his case well founded, it enabled him to carry it through. To him chiefly it is owing that the Divorce Court has been a great success. He has made a code of divorce law by his decisions, and he has based it upon sound, broad principles. As a social lawyer, Sir Cresswell Cresswell is as great as Lord Mansfield is as a mercantile lawyer. He has built a bridge in chaos; and if his successor has the prudence to keep to it, he may travel without any very violent falls.

This building up of a new system of law must have grown to be a labour of love with Sir Cresswell Cresswell. He has long since earned his pension. He was rich in private means; he was childless, and, indeed, unmarried. It could only have been an absorbing interest in his work and a desire to consolidate the practice of his Court which could have induced him to toil on in a drudgery which must have caused him frequent disgust and continual labour. He was a hardworking, conscientious, and successful public servant, and his life has been useful. How few there are who die and of whom so much as this can be truly said; and who is there among us of whom we can truly say much more?

WHEN AN AMBASSADOR of Prussia to the English Court was asked his opinion about the country to which he had been accredited, he replied, "After three weeks' residence in England, I was quite ready to write a book on it; after three months, I began to think that the task was somewhat difficult; and now that I have lived three years, I find it impossible."

OUR FEUILLETON.

THE LONG RECKONING.

(Continued from page 75.)

CHAPTER III.

Lady Matilda Strensal and the Countess of Crowbarcock were first cousins and very dear friends. By consequence John Jarnwith and Margaret Strensal were second cousins. According to the code of domestic wisdom which regulated the matrimonial alliances of this wide family connection, second cousinhood did not come within the prohibited degrees; otherwise Jarnwith would not probably have been so frequent a guest at Thorskelf. The fact was, that a private understanding existed between these amiable mothers that their children were mutually destined for each other.

Margaret's fortune was settled by her grandfather's will at forty thousand pounds on her marriage, and other handsome eventualities were to accrue to her on Lady Matilda's death; so that, counted merely in hard cash, she was a considerable treasure. But, besides this, Lady Crowbarcock highly approved of her personally, had great confidence in dear Matilda's system of education, and held the theory that love after long and familiar acquaintance was the best sort of love to be had in this world.

Until the Wrottesworth visit it had been considered a satisfactory condition of affairs that the relations between these young people were of a familiar, unembarrassed sort, which implied no more than fraternal affection. But the change which came over the girl's joyous spirits and her manner to her cousin, in spite of her best endeavours to resist and avoid any such change, was duly noted, and caused no little anxiety to the maternal mind.

This predestined love affair had begun precisely at the wrong end, and had come to grief in the very act of starting.

Of course, the two provident mothers pitied poor Margaret's case, and repined at the muddle they had made of playing at destiny.

When Margaret and her mother came to town, not for the season, but to lay up accomplishments against seasons to come, of course they passed a good deal of their leisure at Crowbarcock House.

Lady Crowbarcock was grave rather than gay, and her husband was less lively than severe. He was a stern, conscientious man; and she was a kind-hearted, serious woman. She devoted herself to religion and works of charity and benevolence, and had no daughters to develop her worldly instincts in their bringing out. He did his duties, local and Parliamentary, steadily, and with a certain austere self-abnegation. Subscribed largely to such philanthropic schemes as could be warranted practical, and had sons, one of whom, at least, developed some of his worldly wisdom in his holding in.

The other son, till lately, had caused his parents little anxiety, and their parental pride and hope seemed justly centred in his promising prospects.

But this unlucky attachment to a precocious, half-foreign girl, brought up in the midst of the worst possible influences, the daughter of a man whose name was a byword of horror among the elect, to begin with, and who, moreover, had taken to his depraved bosom that most objectionable woman, Lady Ulrica! It was almost too dreadful to think of such a connection.

Still, after mature deliberation, it had been decided that it was better not to interpose except in the last extremity. The exercise of parental authority in the elder son's case resulted in a painful breach between him and his family. Lord Crowbarcock had some remains of confidence in his favourite son's intelligence and right-mindedness if he was left to himself; and he feared that opposition might be the means of clenching what otherwise had a chance of failing to pieces.

The mother, though carefully and persistently avoiding all manifestation of her views with respect to Margaret, never visibly scheming to throw them together by special means, relied greatly on the general fact that, if Margaret was with her and about her premises as much as possible, occasions would make themselves without managing, and all might come right by the inherent fitness of things.

If Jarnwith had ever entertained the idea of being in love with Margaret, and had given it up for the sake of a new passion, he would have felt her frequent presence a burden and her loss of spirits a reproach. But he never had thought of falling in love with Margaret. He loved her, indeed, already with a calm brotherly affection, and thought very highly of her qualities, both of head and heart. He knew and had long known that she possessed a gentle, sympathetic, intelligent spirit—that she was good to man and beast—helpful, energetic, cheerful in self-sacrifice, free from vanity, selfishness, jealousy, and affectation.

How did it happen that, up to just about this period, Jarnwith looked upon Margaret, not as a charming and lovely girl, but as "a dear, good, honest, cheerful creature," or, as he sometimes called her, "a capital fellow"?

There was no great mystery in the matter. Margaret was all that has just been said of her, and John Jarnwith was a young man, with a quick eye and a ready heart for the perception and appreciation of female charms. Moreover, she was now a fine tall girl, of five feet nine in stature, and seventeen years of age.

Since she turned the awkward corner of growing girlhood, every month brought rapid accessions of beauty and grace, and she already gave promise of great and commanding beauty.

But from ten years old, when she was a fat, lumpy, little girl, with a large face and big features, not bad in themselves, but planted terribly far apart, to near sixteen, during which interval her bulk was gradually drawn out through varying degrees of lank and bony gauntness, Margaret's moral graces had not been set off by any physical attractions worth mentioning.

Now it was precisely during these six years that John Jarnwith had been of an age to take note of female charms, and, if they had existed, he would most certainly have taken note of them in such a dear good girl as his amiable cousin.

And the changes which the mellowing influences of first love, with all its sweet, sad, gentle seriousness, had lately wrought in her; softening all the outlines of her character, subduing the impetuosity of her girlish spirits, and veiling her frank, girlish manner in the modest draperies of maidenly reserve; all these were passive indications, legible enough to the eye of watchful conjecture; but he was occupied with other absorbing interests.

In the midst of his own harass of doubts, hopes, fears, and anxieties these phases of inward and spiritual, as well as outward and visible, change in dear Margaret, if they did not altogether escape his notice, at any rate failed to arrest his attention.

But, one afternoon coming into the back drawing-room to look for a book, he found Margaret near the window making a copy of a large miniature which stood on the table before her in an ornate case-frame. The portrait was a family group, representing his mother, with bare arms, a short waist, and tall head-dress, holding himself, a chubby child of two years old, in her lap, and his elder brother, a fine curly-wigged urchin of about five, who was leaning on the maternal knee and wailing a woolly toy-dog in his junior's face.

The confidential murmur of motherly conversation in the next room coaxed on his approach, so he only said "How do you do?" to Lady Matilda, came back to Margaret, found his book, paused with it in his hand, before carrying it away to the library, to say a word or two of encouragement to the young lady on her progress in the art, and, finally, sat down on a sofa at the other side of the table, knowing that she was sure to be quiet, and would not disturb him with talk unless she was spoken to.

So he found his place in the *Quarterly Review*, and prepared to fix his mind on a stiff article about the governance of the shipping interest, in preparation for a debate on the subject which would come on in Parliament next week.

The article did not very readily lay hold of his attention, and he found himself from time to time gazing vacantly over the margin of his page.

The ruddy light of approaching sunset slanted picturesquely across the fair artist's face and figure, as she sat at her work. It lit up the bright, wavy masses of her hair. It touched the rounded freshness of her downy cheek with a delicate, transparent bloom; it played on the loose plaits of the fawn-coloured Indian silk she wore, the folds altering as she moved, and suggesting vaguely but picturesquely the stately form beneath. She seemed intently occupied with her work, and never once looked off it since he had been seated opposite her.

"Margaret!" he said.

"Yes, dear!" she replied, raising the clear, kind, violet eyes.

"Have you got a spare bit of drawing-paper and a pencil you can lend me?"

"Will any of these do?" she said, getting a few pieces of various size out of the pocket of her broad drawing-pad. "Do you want it for anything very particular? I am afraid there are some of my scratches on the back."

"Thanks! this will do beautifully. Don't move, you are in such a pretty effect of sunlight; I want to make a slight study of you. You need only go on working just as you were. There! if I only could do you anything like justice, now! You would make a charming picture."

"Nonsense!" she said, and the colour deepened in her cheeks. She felt the tips of her ears tingle, and her heart was beating violently.

"Not a bit nonsense; you have as good an eye to judge of looks as anybody, or you would not draw so truly. You must see as well as everybody else how wonderfully you have been coming on in your good looks lately. I know you are in no danger of being vain. You never bore me any malice for the horrid caricatures I used to make of you as the good ogress that got so gaunt and lean because she was too amiable to eat the little boys and girls. I must have the indiarubber. I have got the eyebrows wrong, and made you frown terribly, and that is quite out of character. Just frown once, and let me see how you look when you are angry."

Margaret did as she was bid, and tried to frown, but it was not a successful effort; and then she was obliged to laugh, and said, "You must make me angry first, and then I shall look like a Gorgon."

"A very amiable Gorgon, with a feeble description of scowl, I fear you would be when you did your worst. I wonder what would make you angry. I know what would go nearest to it, though."

"What is it?" said Margaret, looking up suddenly, and wishing next moment she had not asked the question.

"If any one was to say a word against Edmund."

"No one has a word to say against Edmund—no one can have; least of all you, John, whom he loves better than a brother. And I fear he has been hurt and grieved by something lately. I hope you have not said anything unkind to him."

"Has he told you anything?"

"No; but I have seen he has something on his mind, and whenever your name is mentioned it seems worse; and you never come near him now, and I have often thought there was some uncomfortable misunderstanding, such as there ought not to be between friends that have always been like brothers."

"At any rate, you have always been like a sister to me, dear Margaret, and I have often thought I should do well to tell you all about it; for you have a good woman's wit, and I have no sister of my own to take into my counsels. You may be able to give me a charitable interpretation of Edmund's conduct, and tell me if I have done him wrong. I may be blinded by my egotistical pity for my own griefs; but I confess I have been totally unable to account for what he has said and done on any theory that agrees with my previous knowledge of him."

Margaret felt a shivering dread of these confidences, which she foresaw would be so painful and difficult for her to listen to. "You will not be able to convince me that Edmund is to blame," she said, "and perhaps you had better not tell me anything."

"On the contrary, I want you to convince me that he is not to blame," and then he told her the story of his love, and the signs of encouragement he had received, and her brother's unaccountable and mysterious reserve. "And do you think he loves her?—do you think he means to marry her?" he asked, parenthetically, before he had brought his narration to its catastrophe.

"I thought so once, but I hope not now, after all that has passed between her and you; at least—does he know all you have told me?"

"Yes, indeed!" And then he informed her how he had spoken to Edmund on his way to Lady Randalmer's ball, and the unexpected effect of that interview. But when he came to the disastrous culmination of his evil star in the conservatory, instead of sympathising with his despair, Margaret's countenance showed manifest and unmistakable signs of joy and relief.

In the next moment she lifted her drawing to a right angle before her, and seemed to be examining it at arms' length; and this movement, though too late to hide the expression with which she learned that the affair had broken off, was in time to hide the burning blush which followed.

"You are glad, then, that she was persuaded to change her mind in the eleventh hour and reserve herself for a better offer. That was exactly how he looked when I told him." Saying this, he rose abruptly from the table with an impulse (which seems indigenous in the male mind under trying circumstances) to put his hands in his pockets and walk about the room. But he was diverted from this expression of his feelings by perceiving Margaret's scarlet flush, and her face of confusion and distress, over the edge of the cardboard barrier with which she had screened herself.

"I thought at least you would be sorry for me. Come; I didn't mean to hurt your feelings, dear. Forgive me if I spoke sharply to you. You don't know, and may you never know, how bitter it is to see the blossom of your hopes brushed carelessly away—the purpose of your life broken like the leading shoot of the larch (that may grow a hundred years and never lose the crook in its distorted growth); and all this perhaps by some wavering, undecided freak of a rival who hardly knows whether to take or leave the toy of a dubious dalliance to the waverer, but all in all to you."

Now, Margaret had felt how bitter it was, and she felt it with peculiar bitterness at this moment.

Large tears were gathering in her eyes, and a smothering oppression laboured in her breast; the colour ebbed away from her cheeks and left them deadly pale. She would have given years of her life for rescue.

If she could only have found a few commonplace words and have got rid of the knot which seemed tied in her throat; if she could only have looked up with the most ordinary expression of calm, stolid indifference; but if she lifted her eyelids the tears would roll away. She felt his eyes on her forehead reading her miserable confession through and through.

"You are sorry for me, dear," he said; "and I am grieved to have been so thoughtless as to vex you with my impatience and distress your gentle heart with my troubles. Forgive me, dear Margaret."

She was obliged to raise her eyes now, and the two great tears fell. They seemed to bear away with them some of her distress and embarrassment. His eyes looked kindly and tenderly into hers, and something within him whispered, "This was thy misguided destiny's good angel, whose limpid soul is lit with Heaven's own pure and holy radiance." How uncertain and lurid, by comparison, seemed the shifting and glaring light which had led him through doubts and heart-burnings and all the quagmires and waste places of the night to leave him in desolate darkness at the end! But now the clear and dewy eye of dawn was opening on the forlorn situation into which his vagrant illusion had brought him, and with the light came sorrow and shame.

"Alas, too late!" he said in his heart, as he sat down on the sofa again with a sigh, and thought how much happier than himself would be the man who should win dear Margaret for his own hereafter; for he looked on himself as a ruined gambler, who had staked his all on the wrong colour and lost it.

Still, he would have been very glad to ascertain whether that joy on hearing he had been rejected arose entirely from a vehement disapproval of Lady Julia, and a sisterly satisfaction at his escape

from what he doubted not had been discussed in family conclaves and condemned as a most undesirable match; and whether her embarrassment on his perceiving her joy was merely distress at having appeared unkind, or whether it was possible —; but he could not renew the conversation.

Margaret, too, if she could have trusted herself to words, might perhaps have spoken as much as possible to convey the former impression; but she dare not risk the danger of making things even worse than they were. So they sat silent for a few minutes, and then Lady Matilda cried, "Margaret!" and came to the folding doors, and said she was going to put on her bonnet, for the carriage had been there a long while, and they should hardly be in time to dress for dinner, and it was bad for her darling eyes to go on drawing when it was so near dark.

When they parted, the hand he took was icy cold, and the fingers seemed to tremble, but it might have been his own that had lost their steadiness.

After she was gone the room grew suddenly much darker and chillier. He went into the next room. His mother was gone up to dress. He stood for a long while with his elbow on the chimney-piece, and his forehead on his hand, watching the live coals in the grate glowing more and more as the daylight died away. I should be afraid to mention the strange things he saw in those crumbling embers before he was disturbed by an irruption of grate-sweeping, coal-pan rattling, and furniture straitening.

As he retreated from the scene of these formidable demonstrations he remembered the drawing he had left on the table, and came back with his lighted taper to carry it away.

Going up the stairs, the light slanted on Margaret's own drawing at the back of his portrait of her. It was, as he had seen before, a group of trees and underwood, in her worst and hasty style, scribbled in coarsely with a broad, soft pencil, and smudged, a great deal of shade and very little light, as if with a stump.

But what he had not observed before were some firm, definite lines across this hazy blackness, where the sharp pressure of a hard pencil had depressed the thick, spongy paper, so that the slanting light brought out traces of a previous drawing. He got a roll out of the bread-basket in the dining-room, and left the butler to form his own conjectures.

A little light friction brought off most of the loosely applied blacklead, and there remained several light but firm and careful outlines of his own face in profile, apparently one after the other begun and left unfinished, as if the artist had been seeking some expression which she could not catch. They all had a serious classical and romantic look, which entirely removed even the worst of them from any suspicion of caricature. Both the drawing and the hiding of them under that extemporised boscage caused him reflections which had at least the effect of making him late for dinner.

In the meantime both Margaret and Lady Matilda were in a peck of troubles, which had, however, no immediate connection with Jarnwith or their visit at Crowbarcock House that afternoon. When they arrived at their door in Park-street, Lady Matilda asked whether her son was come in?

"Not for your Ladyship," said the butler, beckoning into the background, whereupon a tall footman brought forward a broad salver, with a small three-cornered note in the middle, addressed, "Lady Matilda" in her son's handwriting.

"Dearest mother,—Don't be alarmed. I am suddenly obliged to leave town for a day or two, in great haste.—Your own, E. S. I will write as soon as possible. Kisses and blessings to both."

"When was this?—what?—" said Lady Matilda, stopping for want of breath, with a look of alarm which adured the solemn and punctilious butler to utter all he knew at once.

"Telegraphic message, my Lady, a little after five o'clock. Valet put up smallest travelling-bag while the note was being wrote, and five minutes after Mr. Strensal started for London Bridge station in a Hansom."

"He is gone to Paris?" cried Margaret.

"Is the telegraphic message anywhere?"

"No, my Lady. I noticed particular that Mr. Strensal folded it up and put it in his waistcoat-pocket."

Lady Margaret clasped her hands beneath her shawl. "Heaven preserve him from the snares of that wicked girl!" she muttered inaudibly as she went up the stairs.

(To be continued.)

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

PONTEFRAC.—Major Waterhouse was returned without opposition on Monday. Sir E. W. Head issued an address in the morning, announcing his retirement.

CLARE.—Sir Colman O'Loughlin was on Monday elected member for the county Clare without opposition.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.—There seems every probability of a keen contest for the representation of the Montgomeryshire boroughs, rendered vacant by the death of Captain Johnstone. On the Liberal side the Hon. Hanbury Tracy, a relative of Lord Stanley, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, is spoken of; while the Conservatives will, in all probability, start the Hon. Mr. Herbert, a brother of Earl Powis. Both gentlemen possess great local influence.

THE WENTWORTH PEERAGE.—Last autumn the newspapers contained a report of the death of Lord Byron's grandson, who, though a Peer of the Realm, was earning his livelihood as an artisan in a private dockyard. The noble almsright left a sister and a brother, the latter of whom claims the barony of Wentworth through his mother, Lord Byron's daughter, Ada, who married the Earl of Lovelace. The claim has been heard before the House of Lords Committee for Privileges, but is not yet decided.

NEW LIFE-BOAT FOR HASTINGS.—On Wednesday a harbour trial was made at Limehouse with a new life-boat belonging to the National Life-boat Institution. She is 36 ft. long and 8 ft. wide, and rows twelve oars, double banked. The life-boat was forwarded by the Institution on the following day to Hastings, to replace a smaller one, which was deemed less suitable for the locality. The boat satisfactorily underwent the usual tests of stability and self-righting, and speedily self-ejected the water shipped in the latter process. A free conveyance was, as usual, kindly given to the new and old life-boats and their transporting-carriages by the London, Brighton, and South-east Railway Company over their line. The Hastings life-boat was instrumental, last May, in rescuing the crew of four men of a fishing-smack which was totally wrecked on the rocks off Hastings in a heavy gale of wind.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA AND THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—The Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia have had their long-expected meeting at Gastein, a little town on the frontier of the German Tyrol. The King had been staying there, and the Emperor reached the place on Sunday. He was immediately visited by the King, and the Sovereigns had a short interview. In the evening the Emperor returned the visit. Both visits were entirely devoid of any formal appearance. The general impression is that the meeting of the Sovereigns was designed to arrange some common plan of action in relation to the reform of the federal structure of Germany. The Austrian Court has for some time back had a scheme under its consideration, and it became a matter of much importance to obtain for it the general approval of the King of Prussia.

NEW GUN AND GUN-CARRIAGE.—Captain H. Broadhead, commanding the Stearn Reserve at Portsmouth, and Mr. George Murdock, Inspector of machinery about at the same port, have forwarded to the Admiralty for inspection the models, drawings, and specifications of a breech-loading gun and gun-carriage, the joint invention of the two officers, intended to supply the want of a heavy smooth-bore gun. The gun is bored throughout from muzzle to breech, the circumference at the latter end being slightly increased. The breech is closed by a screw-plug, which closes the breech effectually by a quarter turn after the plug has been slid into its position. The carriage on which the gun is mounted appears, however, to be of the most immediate importance. The difficulty experienced in working and training the 35 cwt. 6" pounders on the main-decks of our iron ships during a cruise was found to be most serious, and it was acknowledged that some other mode of working and training such guns than by the bungling, slow handspike method must be adopted to render the ships' main-deck guns efficient. To meet this difficulty the present carriage has been constructed. Two cranked shafts are fixed underneath the carriage with the apex in front on a cup-bearing resting on the deck, the rear ends of the cranks carrying metal tracks on wheels. By a side lever and rope-fall the gun and carriage can either be thrown on the cup-bearing and rear tracks, and thus become a pivot breech-loading gun; or it can become an ordinary brass-gun, by lifting with the lever the cup-bearing and rear tracks. As a pivot breech-loading gun, two men on each side of a ten-ton gun, with a simple rope-fall in their hands, can train it with the utmost rapidity and nicety, and without a handspike being at all brought into play.



THE DEANERY GATEWAY, ROCHESTER.



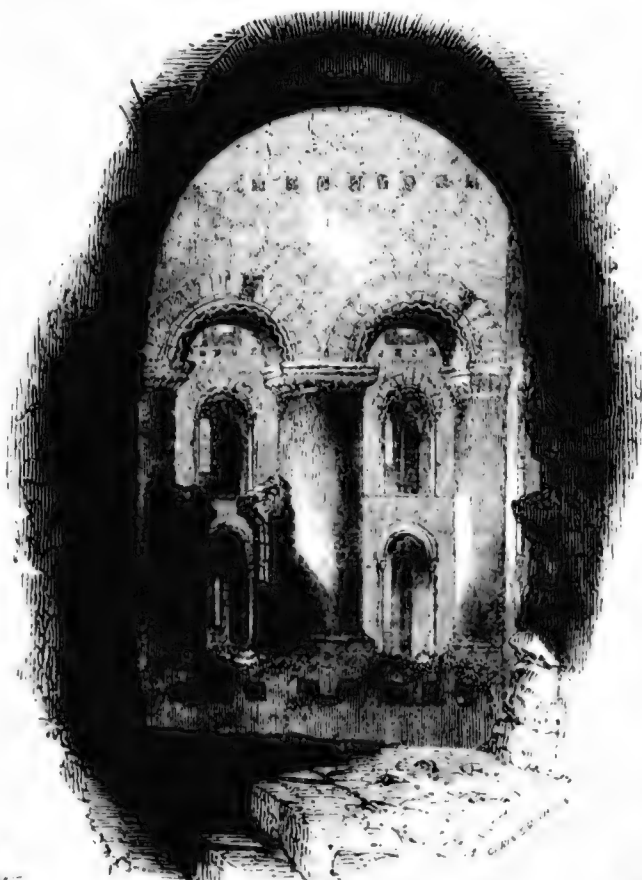
ROCHESTER CASTLE, FROM THE RIVER.



SATIS HOUSE, ROCHESTER.



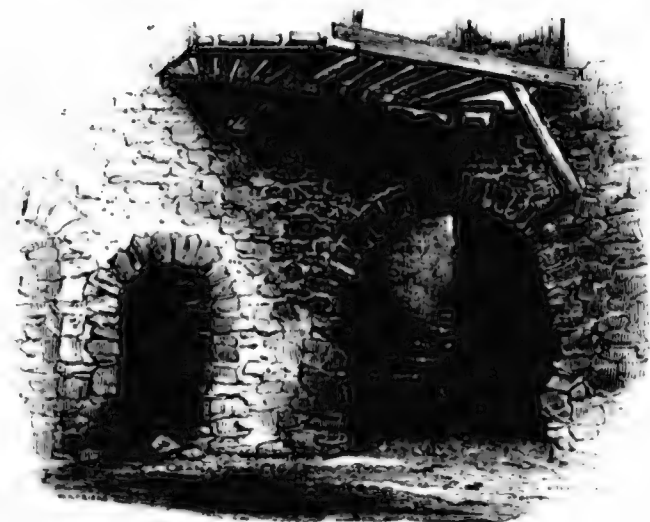
PART OF ROCHESTER CASTLE.



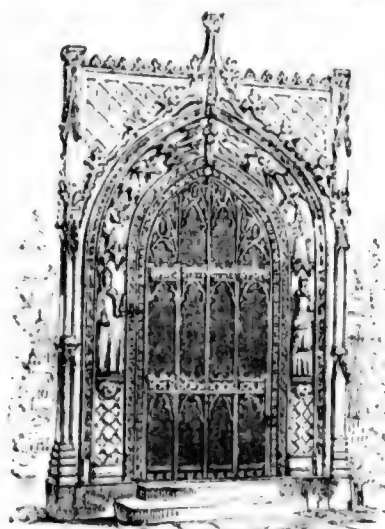
THE BARON'S HALL, ROCHESTER CASTLE.



PART OF ROCHESTER CASTLE.



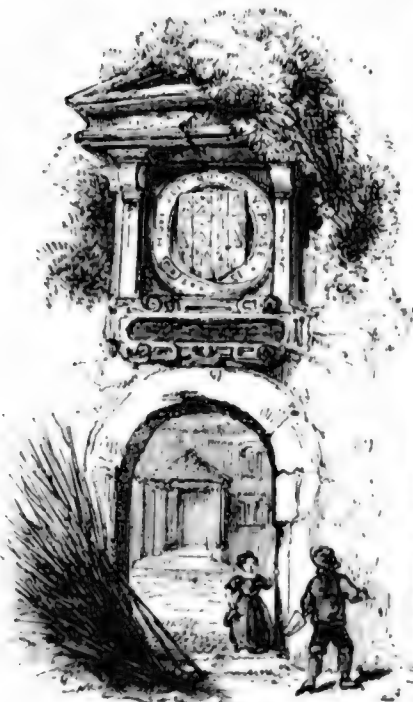
DUNGEON, ROCHESTER CASTLE.



DOORWAY OF CHAPTER HOUSE, ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.



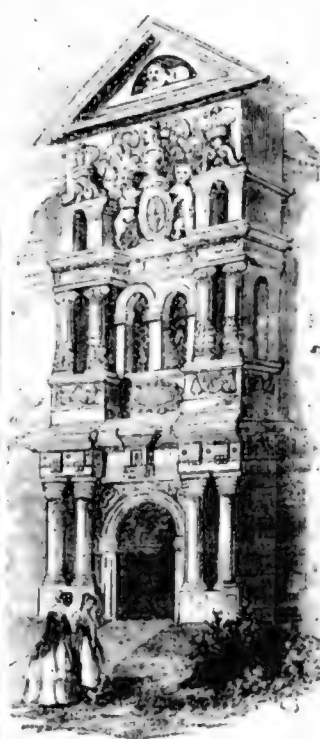
CRYPT OF ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.



GATEWAY, COBHAM COLLEGE.



LEEDS CASTLE.



PORTICO, COBHAM HALL.

THE GALA WEEK OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE annual meeting of that enthusiastic band of garrulous middle-aged gentlemen, who, in company with a considerable number of the fair sex, year by year, during the pleasant summer season, take a week's outing in the country, under the pretence of studying our national antiquities, and ride and roam about the entire day,

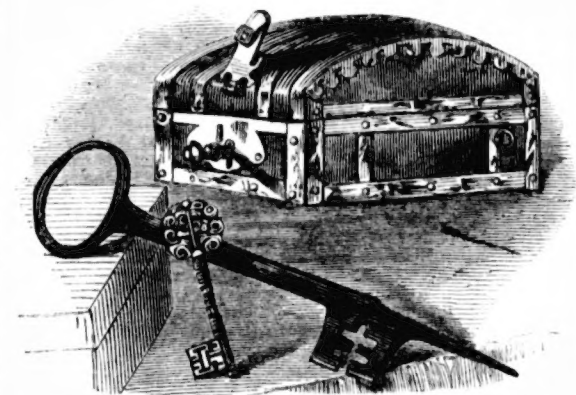


CHIMNEYPIECE, LEEDS CASTLE.

partake of swell déjeuners at "lordly castles," sit down several score strong to hotel dinners, and wind up with evening conversaziones, at which papers—occasionally of a strongly soporific character—are usually read: the annual meeting of this highly social body, which styles itself the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, was held at Rochester during the last week of July, when there was an unusually large gathering of members and their friends, including a considerable sprinkling of local and other notabilities, such as Marquis Camden, K.G., President of the Kent Archæological Society; the Earl of Darnley, Earl Amherst, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the Bishop of Rochester, the Provost of Oriel, Lord Leigh, Mr. Beresford Hope, the Rev. Professor Willis, and several of the most distinguished archaeologists of the country. The opening meeting of the institute was held in the Guildhall, a fine building, which was enlarged and beautified at the expense of Sir Cloudeley Shovel, the brave rough English Admiral, who, originally apprenticed to a shoemaker, ran away from his master to encounter the perils of the "tempest-troubled ocean," attained the highest honours of his profession, represented his native city in Parliament, and found a watery grave, with nine hundred of his crew, off the Scilly Rocks, on the voyage home from Toulon. The chair was occupied by Marquis Camden. Congratulatory addresses were read, and speeches made by the Town Clerk for the Mayor and Corporation; by the Earl of Darnley, on behalf of the Kent Archæological Society; by Lord Talbot de Malahide; and, on behalf of the Dean and Chapter, by the Provost of Oriel; the latter remarking that Rochester Cathedral stood on the site of the second Christian Church of the Anglo-Saxon times. The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Bishop of Rochester, Lord Leigh, Mr. Beresford Hope, Mr. Roach Smith, and others; after which the members of the institute commenced an exploration of the chief objects of antiquity in the city. After inspecting the sites of All Souls' Chapel and St. Clement's Church, both which have entirely disappeared the party visited the ancient Crown Inn, immortalised by Shakespeare, and where Queen Bess passed a night during one of her Kentish progresses; and Hogarth and his



TUDOR GATEWAY, COBHAM HALL.



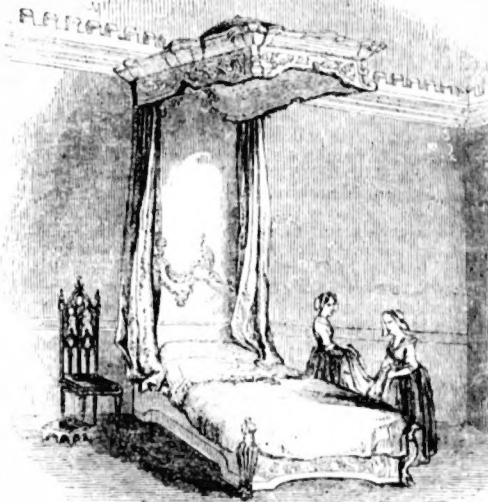
ANNE BOLEYN'S CASKET AND ANCIENT KEY, LEEDS CASTLE.

THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES, DEDICATED BY NATURAL SELECTION TO DR. CHARLES DARWIN.



NO. 13.—HE WOULD A-WOONG GO.—(DRAWN BY CHARLES H. BENNETT.)

friends halted and dined on the occasion of their famous five days' tour to the Isle of Grain; but which, in the course of a few months, will be demolished to make way for a modern hotel of the same name. The visitors then inspected the site of the ancient gates of the city and its massive walls; and the ancient Danish, or more probably Roman, mound at the base of Rochester Castle, termed Boley Hill; and paid a brief visit to the ancient Satis House, the residence of the eccentric Mr. Richard Watts, who



ANCIENT BEDSTEAD, LEEDS CASTLE.

founded the lodging-house of world-wide repute, where six poor travellers, not being rogues or proctors, were to receive gratis, for one night, lodging, entertainment, and a groat each. Satis House is said to have received its name from the reply made by Queen Elizabeth to the apologies indulged in by the loyal Mr. Richard Watts for the humble accommodation he had been able to offer to his Sovereign on some occasion when she was for a day or two his honoured guest. In Satis House the present Archbishop of Canterbury was born.

During the evening meeting of the institute Mr. Foss read a paper, "On Legal Archaeology," giving a sketch of numerous notable legal celebrities connected with Kent, from the earliest times down to a recent period. In the course of his remarks Mr. Foss dwelt on the extreme antiquity of many of our law names and customs, some of which, still in use, had their origin as far back as the reign of Edward the Elder. After a sketch of the antiquity of the terms Hilary, Easter, and Trinity, as well as the courts of law, and the dresses of the Judges and barristers, Mr. Foss alluded to the first public trial of which we have any record, that in which Lanfranc was the plaintiff, which took place on Penenden Heath, Kent, and lasted three days. He then gave a valuable sketch of most of the celebrities of Kent who had risen to eminence as Chancellors or Judges, and pointed to the fact that no fewer than fifteen Archbishops of Canterbury and seven Bishops of Rochester had attained to the dignity of Lord High Chancellor.

The afternoon of Wednesday was devoted, first, to an inspection of the recently-restored church of Cobham, and more particularly of the magnificent series of brasses, thirteen in number—memorials of the Cobhams and Brooks, former lords of the adjacent baronial hall—which are ranged along the pavement of the chancel. The adjoining ancient hospital, founded in 1392, by John Baron Cobham, and which goes by the name of Cobham College, was next visited, after which the party proceeded to the hall itself, a picturesque Elizabethan edifice, with certain important additions from the designs of Inigo Jones, most charmingly situated in a finely timbered park. Down the magnificent avenue of limes, more than a thousand yards in length, but now no longer a carriage-way to the mansion, Queen Elizabeth is said to

have proceeded in full state when she visited the hall, upwards of three centuries ago. Cobham Hall was built by Sir George Brooke, towards the close of the reign of Henry VIII., and here, some few years afterwards, he was seized and sent prisoner to the Tower, on the charge of complicity in Wyatt's plot. His son it was who entertained Queen Elizabeth right royally, and his grandson, who was found guilty of conspiring with Lord Grey of Wilton and the gallant Raleigh against King James I. Lord Cobham's life was spared—it was too worthless a one for even James to take—but his fair estates were confiscated, and bestowed upon Lodowick Stuart, Lord Darnley, a kinsman of the King. And the family, in after years, were not unmindful of their obligation to the Stuart line, for three of this same Darnley's sons fell fighting the battles of Charles I., at Edgehill, Bramden, and Chester.

The handsomest room in the Hall is the music-saloon, pronounced by George IV. to be "the finest room in England." The chief feature of interest, however, in the place is the remarkably fine collection of paintings, including some of the choicest works by Vandeyke, Guido, Rubens, Salvator Rosa, Titian, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Holbein, and other painters of less note. The members of the institute spent a considerable time in examining the art-treasures of the hall, and exploring the various apartments throughout the building, which presents numerous archaeological features of considerable interest. Among its collection of curiosities is an ancient carved carriage—a sort of miniature State coach—richly painted and gilt, and said to be the veritable vehicle in which Mary Queen of Scots rode after her marriage with the Earl of Darnley. We fancy, however, there were no such things as carriages north of the Tweed in those days, and that the vehicle does not date farther back than the reign of Charles II.

In the evening of Wednesday, at a meeting of the section of History, held in the County Court Hall, Rochester, under the presidency of the Very Rev. the Dean of Chichester, a paper was read by Mr. W. B. Rye, assistant keeper of printed books at the British Museum, "On Visits to Rochester and Chatham by Royal and Distinguished Persons, English and Foreign, between the years 1300 and 1783." In the description of the Royal and other visits paid to Rochester, Mr. Rye gave interesting details of the visits of Edward III., Henry V., Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, James I., King Christian IV. of Denmark, Prince Henry, the King of Bohemia, Charles I. and II., Peter the Great, Hogarth, and Dr. Johnson, the last-mentioned of whom spent some time in the city a short period before his death. After an interesting discussion on the subject of the paper, in the course of which the names of other Royal and illustrious personages were mentioned as having visited the city prior to the period included in Mr. Rye's paper, the Rev. J. L. Warner read a paper, "On some unpublished Passages in the Life of John Warner, Bishop of Rochester," who lived in the early portion of the seventeenth century, and was chiefly distinguished for his uncompromising fidelity to the Royal cause, and remarkable as being almost the only Bishop who held his see both before and after the Commonwealth.

On Thursday the members of the institute proceeded by special train from Rochester to Sevenoaks, and spent the day in visiting that highly picturesque and perfect specimen of a country gentleman's residence of the Elizabethan period, the Mote at Ighiteam, which, with the exception of a few misplaced coats of paint, presents much the same features in every respect as it did three centuries ago. The members afterwards proceeded to St. Leonard's Tower, a fine remnant of Norman architecture; examined the ruined walls of Malling Abbey; visited all that is left of Leybourne Castle, the stronghold of the famous Roger de Leybourne, who took a prominent part in the Barons' War, and on whose life and career Mr. Bartt read at one of the evening meetings of the institute an interesting paper. After this full supply of food for antiquarian study, the members had the gratification of being provided with a banquet of a more substantial description, and of which by this time they stood much in need. By special invitation of Marquis Camden, the entire party partook of an elegant luncheon at Wilderness Park, Knole, the hospitable mansion of the noble president of the institute.

On Friday morning there was a strong gathering of archaeologists at the Guildhall, and the company comprised a larger number than usual of personages of note. Besides Marquis Camden, who presided, there were Earl Amherst, the Bishop of Oxford, the Bishop of Gibraltar, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Lord Neaves, Professor Stanley, the Earl of Darnley, the Dean of Peterborough, the Provost of Oriel, the Rev. Dr. Griffith, Mr. D. Wilson (Toronto), Mr. Gilbert Scott, Sir R. Kirby, Sir Sibald Scott, Colonel Pinney, M.P.; Sir John Boileau; Mr. W. W. E. Wynn, M.P., and Sir S. S. Glynn, Bart. A French savant, in the person of M. A. Maury, specially deputed by the Emperor of the French to attend the congress, was also present, his Majesty having directed that distinguished archaeologist to attend the meetings of the institute for the purpose of hearing the paper by Dr. Guest, Master of Gonville and Caius College, "On the landing of Julius Cæsar in England." That paper, however, was read on the Wednesday before the arrival of M. Maury in this country. At the Friday's sitting the first paper was by the Very Rev. Dr. Hook, F.R.S., Dean of Chichester, "On the Life and Times of Gundulph, Bishop of Rochester." In an exceedingly interesting resumé Dr. Hook traced with remarkable fullness the history of this Prelate and his connection with Rochester, the see of which he held from 1077 till 1107, a portion of which period he was *de facto* Archbishop of Canterbury, after the death of his friend and patron Lanfranc. Gundulph, however, is principally known as the builder of the White Tower of London and of Malling Abbey, and as the presumed builder of Rochester Cathedral and Castle. The theory of his having built Rochester Cathedral is now, however, abandoned by archaeologists, Dr. Hook being of opinion that he only erected a very small portion of that edifice—namely, the crypt—while there are no reliable grounds for deeming him the builder of Rochester Castle. This remarkable Prelate, more, perhaps, than any other individual of the time, stamped his character on the age in which he lived. The next paper, "Gundulph, considered as an Architect," was read by Mr. J. H. Parker, F.S.A. But the great attraction of the sitting was a paper by Professor Willis, "On the Architectural History of Rochester Cathedral and Conventual Buildings." This was a most valuable contribution to the institute, and was looked forward to with some considerable amount of interest, the Guildhall being exceedingly crowded. Professor Willis entirely ignores the claim of Gundulph to having erected the cathedral, the building itself proving beyond dispute that it was erected by different individuals at different periods. There is little doubt that the whole cathedral was formerly of the Norman style, but the only Norman portion now remaining is the nave, the remainder being Early English. The part which Professor Willis was inclined to attribute to Gundulph was the crypt, but "certainly not another stone." The Norman portion of the cathedral he was disposed to consider as possibly erected by Ernulf, who built the crypt at Canterbury, as well as part of Peterborough Cathedral, when he was Abbot, before his removal to Rochester. He was inclined to believe that the Early English portion of the cathedral was built by William de Hoc, and that the choir was erected out of the offerings at the shrine of St. William, who was murdered by his servant when on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and was afterwards interred in Rochester Cathedral, and subsequently canonised by the Pope. Two Bishops, St. Paulinus, who came with St. Augustine to England, and Ithamar, the first English Bishop of Rochester, who died in 655, were buried in the cathedral, thus showing the antiquity of the building to be very remote. In the afternoon Professor Willis conducted a party of between two hundred and three hundred of the nobility and gentry over the cathedral, when he lucidly explained the various styles of architecture which compose the building and pointed out the internal evidence which it contained of having been erected at different periods. The party were also conducted into the crypt, where are still to be seen some portions of the old Saxon edifice, as well as the part of the building attributed to Gundulph. The other points of interest visited were the fine choir, the magnificent chapter-room, St. William's shrine, St. Edward's Chapel, the tomb of Bishop Merton, the founder of Merton College, Oxford, together with all that remains standing of the adjoining cloisters and conventual establishments.

On a subsequent day the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, M.A., conducted the members of the institute over Rochester Castle and explained the chief points of interest in connection with that remarkable Norman structure. Mr. Hartshorne, like the Dean of Chichester, altogether ignores the claims of Bishop Gundulph to being regarded as the builder of the present edifice, which, from documentary evidence recently discovered, there is little doubt was erected by William Corbyl, Archbishop of Canterbury, between the years 1126 and 1139. With the exception of Dover Castle—which, according to ancient records, was erected at an expense of £1200—the keep at Rochester Castle was the largest in England, that at Castle Rising being the third in size, while, in point of beauty and grandeur, Rochester Castle surpassed them all.

At the customary evening meeting papers were read "On the Early Dialect of Kent," "On Old Rochester Bridge, and the Adjacent Site," in which the history of the ancient structure which formerly spanned the river, and some of the most remarkable of the old buildings which had to be removed to make way for the present handsome iron bridge, were described; and "On the Monumental Remains in Rochester Cathedral."

On Saturday a large party of the members and friends of the institute, to the number of about 200, proceeded from Rochester to Aylesford, a very ancient village on the banks of the Medway, near Maidstone, where in former times was an extensive priory, considerable remains of which still exist. It was here, after the old priory had been converted into a gentleman's mansion, that Sir Charles Sedley, the witty and licentious poet of the reign of Charles II., was born. Hence, past the old British cromlech, called, in the vernacular of the vulgar, "Kit's Coty House," the party proceeded to Leeds Castle, the residence of Mr. C. Wykeham Martin, one of the members for West Kent, a fine old baronial residence, in a remarkable state of preservation. The visitors were conducted over the building by the Bishop of Oxford, Mr. Beresford Hope, and Mr. Parker, who pointed out the principal objects worthy of notice. A castle occupied the site of the present edifice in remote times. The old Saxon stronghold was given by William the Conqueror to his brother Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, on whose disgrace it was granted to De Crovequer, by whose family it was presented to Edward II., who gave it to Bartholomew, Baron of Badlesmer, who treacherously fortified it against the King, and refused a night's rest therein to Queen Isabel. Leeds Castle was visited by Richard II. In the reign of Henry V., Joan of Navarre, the second Queen of Henry IV., being accused of joining a conspiracy against the life of her stepson, was sent a prisoner to this castle. In the reign of Henry VI. Archbishop Chicheley presided here, at the trial of the Duchess of Gloucester, who was charged with sorcery and witchcraft, and found guilty and sentenced to three days' penance in London, and committed to perpetual imprisonment in the Isle of Man. Three centuries afterwards George III. and his Queen lodged for a night at Leeds Castle, after reviewing the camp at Coxheath.

The castle is situated in a beautiful park, surrounded with a large moat of running water, which rises at Lenham and empties itself into the Medway. The building stands rather low in respect to the grounds to the south and east, but to the north-west it commands an extensive panoramic view. The keep, which has an imposing appearance on approaching the castle from the east, consists of the remains of towers, once of impregnable strength, connected by a covered archway with the rest of the castle, from which it is otherwise separated by the waters of the moat. In whatever point of view the castle is regarded, the most picturesque combinations are visible—the great lines are finely broken—the masses boldly projected, and in many places beautifully relieved by groups of ash and other trees, which cluster around the old and decaying towers, and the picture is completed by an amphitheatre of richly wooded hills. The interior of this stately mansion presents many attractive features to the notice of the archaeologist; such, for instance, as the elegantly carved chimney-piece, of Italian design, of which we give an engraving; while among the curiosities displayed in great abundance throughout the principal apartments, the casquet, said to have formerly belonged to the unfortunate Anne Boleyn, and the handsome old-fashioned bedstead which, no doubt, has a history of its own, in connection with some of the great people who have been entertained here as guests, may be pointed out as deserving special attention.

After quitting the castle the visitors inspected Battel Hall and Leeds Church, in the churchyard of which are two magnificent yew-trees, of ancient growth, and examined in the vicinity some remains, which were pronounced to be those of a Roman villa. At the termination of this portion of the day's proceedings the party visited the ancient town of Maidstone, formerly called Medway's Town, where they were hospitably entertained at a sumptuous luncheon, given in the Townhall of the borough by the Mayor and Corporation, and of which about 150 guests partook.

In the afternoon the members of the institute visited the chief points of interest at Maidstone, including the fine old parish church, the College, the museum of the Kent Archaeological Society, Chillington House, the Charles Museum, and Allington Castle, the seat of the once-famous family of the Wyatts, who for a century or more played such a prominent part in the history of the times.

Here we must pause; but next week we shall have something to say respecting these various localities, and of the further proceedings of the members of the institute ere the annual congress was brought to a close.

HE WOULD A-WOING GO.

WE read in ancient story of a Frog who "would a-woing go." Said story tells us he was but a heedless youth, scorning the wise maxims of his poor old mother, and easing his conscience with the recurrent and rather tiresome song of "Rowley-powley, gammon and spinach; heigho!" says Anthony Rowley. He made friends with Sir Toby Rat; he fell madly in love with little Patty Mouse; he was nearly caught by Mrs. Cat, and quite swallowed by a piratical Duck. Sad ending, Mr. Darwin, for this poor little Jack Frog! but not worse than that which will await him now. Look at him in our picture. He has swelled himself out of all proportion; he has adorned himself with his newest waistcoat, his quaintest "charms," his heaviest watch-chain; he has stuck a nosegay in his button-hole; he has curled his hair. He is fat, he is complacent, he is happy. He sings "Rowley-powley" no more; he has forgotten his "Heigho!" he loves dear little Mouse; he has come a-courting! Oh, if he could only look behind and behold his fate! He fancies that he holds his spring hat, perhaps a ring, at all events a Heart—a heart? poor frog, it only disguises a cracked egg, out of which shall come in due season the awful Bird. Fading out of his complacency, his waistcoat, his nosegay, and his "charms," he stands shivering at the top, a doomed morsel for an ugly Duck.

What is the Duck? you ask. Who shall say? I knew a Frog whose fate it was to rear fourteen tadpoles. That was his "Duck." Maybe a Mother-in-Law, a Divorce, or even a Bankruptcy Court may be his end.

Many things change, but this remains. Given the Frog, pray look for the Duck. When the wooing is at an end, then begins the gobbling-up. C. H. B.

THE POLISH QUESTION.—A despatch from Lord Napier to Earl Russell has been published, containing an account of an interview between the former and Prince Gortschakoff on the subject of the Russian reply. Lord Napier represented to the Prince that the tenor of the reply would probably be considered unsatisfactory in England, and endeavoured to obtain some explanations which might perhaps modify its character. But the explanations were not satisfactory. Prince Gortschakoff said he could accede to nothing which would give the Western Powers any right whatever to interfere in Russian affairs.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—A deplorable accident has occurred to an excursion-train, near Lynn, on the Great Eastern line. The train, which was a heavy one, and filled with passengers, was proceeding from Hunstanton to Lynn, at a good speed. When near Wootton station it struck a bullock which had strayed on to the line. Three of the carriages were thrown off with a frightful crash and nearly smashed to pieces, six persons being killed and a number of others much injured. How the bullock got on to the line is not yet known, both sides being, it is said, well fenced.

THE OPERAS.

BOTH opera-houses have now closed their doors. To-night the supplementary extra nights at Her Majesty's will be brought to a conclusion, and when the "extra" extra-performance for Mr. Mapleson's benefit, advertised for Monday night, shall have taken place, the protracted operatic season will at length be finally concluded. We doubt much if two Italian opera-houses can be simultaneously sustained with profit to both managers; but there is no question that the rivalry is highly conducive to the benefit of the general public. Both *impresarij* opened the campaign by making large promises, and in both cases the promises have been creditably fulfilled. Strangely enough, the palm must this year be given to Her Majesty's. For many years past the management of this theatre has relied upon the attraction of some "one bright particular star," and has paid no regard to the subordinate requirements of orchestra and chorus. This season a company of almost unexampled strength has been collected together, without prejudice to the efficiency of the less prominent material which forms the basis of a first-class operatic establishment. The pledges made by Mr. Mapleson were many, but they have in the main been well kept. It is true that neither "La Forza del Destino" nor "Stradella" have been produced, nor has Mdle. Kellogg, announced in the prospectus, been prevailed upon to leave the enviable repose of the United States to encounter the terrors of a residence in London. On the other hand, the services of Mr. Sims Reeves, the most popular of native singers, past and present, have been secured to give additional strength to the cast of Oberon, while the unparalleled success of "Faust" may condone the omission of two of the three other promised novelties. Signor Schira's "Niccolò de' Lapi" unfortunately proved an unmitigated failure, in spite of its splendid cast; but the admirable manner in which Mr. Mapleson placed upon the stage an opera, the fate of which he must surely have foreseen, redounded to his credit. He is also entitled to praise for giving Mdle. Artôt a chance of displaying upon the stage her great capabilities as a dramatic artist, although these opportunities were few in number. With this exception his new importations, such as Signor Baragli, Signor Frisca, &c., have not been successful; but all the more important members of his last year's company have this season crowned themselves with fresh glory. Mr. Santley, for instance, has from night to night manifested steady advance in his art. He took as much pains with the hero of "Niccolò de' Lapi" as though the part were grateful, and, with Valentine in "Faust," as though that subordinate character were the hero. As Scherazmin in "Oberon," and as Almaviva in "Le Nozze," he is equally the best in the recollection of the present generation. Mdle. Trebelli, too, has retained all her fame, while M. Gassier has been as reliable a basso as ever brandished a dagger or provoked a laugh. But the chief laurels have, of course, as usual been won and worn by Mdle. Titiens and Signor Giuglini, the lady compelling constant admiration by her versatility and indefatigable zeal, and the gentleman needing only to open his lips to charm all hearers. "Faust" has been the one memorable event of the season, and this admirable work has been supported, *on ne peut mieux*, by the above-named gifted quintet. On Wednesday last, by-the-by, it was given by them at the Crystal Palace as a concert with great success.

In the chorus of Her Majesty's Theatre a very marked improvement has this year been patent, the tenors being especially efficient. The orchestra has also been very considerably improved in material, and it has been most carefully and conscientiously drilled. The instrumental accompaniments to "Faust" have been executed with such delicacy, and the choruses with such precision and fire, at Her Majesty's as we have vainly wished to hear rivalled at the other house.

In the terpsichorean arrangements Mr. Mapleson has been less happy, for, although he secured the aid of Mdle. Ferraris the elegant, and of Mdle. Pecchini the buxom, the ballet has failed to become a great attraction to the house.

Mr. Gye has not succeeded so well as Mr. Mapleson in redeeming all the pledges made in his prospectus, for of the two novelties and single important revival promised not one has been produced. Seeing, however, the great success achieved at Her Majesty's in "Faust," he transplanted the opera to the ample stage of Covent-Garden, and produced it with such scenic magnificence as, in this respect at least, to throw the rival representation completely into the shade. The performance gave also to M. Faure an admirable opportunity of proving, by his masterly impersonation of Mephistophiles, that he is by far the most artistic and efficient male singer of the troupe. Passing over the unsuccessful debutantes, we are bound to notice Mdle. Fioretti as a highly accomplished but totally undramatic vocalist, who by her inexcusably sudden flight threw away the chances of a brilliant career; and Mdle. Lucca, an essentially dramatic but by no means accomplished singer, whose splendid voice, pretty face, and histrionic energy seem to destine her for a future still more brilliant. Mdle. Adelina Patti has this season been more than ever the main attraction of this theatre. She has greatly widened her repertoire, and has proved herself fully capable of undertaking the most diverse characters of the lyric drama with equal facility. Mdme. Miolan-Carvalho has only appeared as Gretchen, which was intended for her, and Mdle. Fricci only as Norma and Donna Anna, for neither of which was she ever intended. Mdme. Didice has been the only contralto, and the principal bassi have been M. Obin, a great acquisition to the theatre, and Herr Formes. Of the tenors Signor Mario and Signor Tambrile have both given warning that their places must, at no distant date, be refilled, but neither by Signor Naudin the vehement, nor by Signor Baraldi the placid. Signor Tagliabue has been as artistic as heretofore, Signor Graziani as stolid, and M. Faure more praiseworthy than ever. The other singers need no remark.

The chorus has been less efficient than in former years; but the orchestra, malgré its habitual loudness, has been thoroughly effective under the influence of Signor Costa's baton.

The house is to be opened on Monday night for Mr. Mellon's concerts. By-the-by, it is no secret that Mdle. Titiens is engaged to perform Valentine in "Les Huguenots" at the Grand Opera in Paris, on the 26th inst. She must, however, almost immediately return to England to fulfil her engagements at the Worcester and Norwich festivals.

THE TORTOISESHELL TOM-CAT AT THE DRAMATIC COLLEGE FETE.

IN our notice of the Dramatic College Fancy Fair last week, we said that we had doubts regarding the sex of a tortoiseshell tom-cat there exhibited. Those doubts were natural. We knew that the lions, tigers, and monkeys at the wild-beast show were not veritable lions, tigers, and monkeys, but human pantomimists assuming lions, tigers, and monkeys' hides. We knew that Messrs. Paul Bedford and Toole were not really scientific performers, and that the giants was not a real giantess; and we presumed that the exhibition of a tortoiseshell cat of the feminine gender as a tortoiseshell tom-cat was one of the usual and recognised "sells" with which the Dramatic College Fair abounds. It appears that we were wrong, and that we have slighted and injured a sensitive and singular animal. We have received a letter of remonstrance from Mr. Berry, the proprietor of "tom," enclosing a medical certificate from a member of the Royal College of Surgeons. We hasten to retract our injurious suspicions. Mr. Berry's tortoiseshell tom-cat is a tom, a veritable tom, and nothing but a tom; and we request Mr. Berry—and his tom—to accept our apology for our unintentionally offensive imputation.

THE LONDON SAILORS' HOME.—It is now a quarter of a century since the London Sailors' Home, near the London Docks, was opened. Its advantages have been increasingly apparent ever since; its apartments are constantly crowded, and scores of seamen are turned away nightly for want of room. The directors resolved on an enlargement of the premises, which it is estimated will cost £10,000. On Tuesday Lord Palmerston laid the foundation-stone of the proposed enlargement, and, in reply to an address which was presented to him, enlarged on the national importance of providing, as this institution did, for the physical and moral well-being of our sailors. The Bishop of London was also present, and took part in the proceedings.

Chemist, Lincoln.

